

**Findings from the
National Agricultural
Workers Survey (NAWS)
2019–2020:
A Demographic and
Employment Profile of
United States Farmworkers**

Research Report No. 16

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January 2022

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is the sixteenth in a series of Department of Labor publications on the demographic and employment characteristics of hired agricultural workers in the United States. It examines recent information on the demographics and employment characteristics of those who perform crop work. The report focuses on findings for the period covering fiscal years 2019 and 2020. These findings are based on data collected from face-to-face interviews with 2,172 crop farmworkers through the U.S. Department of Labor’s National Agricultural Workers Survey (NAWS) between October 1, 2018, and September 30, 2020. The sample does not include farmworkers with H-2A visas.

Birthplace, Ethnicity, and Race

Almost two-thirds (63%) of farmworkers interviewed in fiscal years 2019–2020 were born in Mexico, 30 percent were born in the United States or Puerto Rico, 5 percent were born in Central America, and the remainder originated from various other regions, including South America, the Caribbean, Asia, and the Pacific Islands. Seventy-eight percent of all farmworkers were Hispanic. Among U.S.-born farmworkers, 32 percent were Hispanic. In terms of race, nearly one-third of farmworkers self-identified as White (33%), and nearly two-thirds categorized their race with an “other” response (66%). Ten percent of farmworkers were self-identified as indigenous.

Work Authorization and Number of Years in the United States

U.S. citizens (by birth or naturalization), lawful permanent residents (green card holders), and those whose visas include work authorization can legally work in the United States. More than half of all farmworkers surveyed in 2019–2020 were authorized to work in the United States (56%); 36 percent were U.S. citizens, 19 percent were lawful permanent residents, and 1 percent had work authorization through some other visa program. Among citizens, 85 percent were born in the United States, and 15 percent were naturalized citizens.

On average, foreign-born farmworkers interviewed in 2019–2020 first came to the United States 21 years before being interviewed. Most respondents had been in the United States at least 10 years (85%), with 70 percent arriving 15 years or more prior to their NAWS interview. One percent¹ of foreign-born farmworkers were in their first year in the United States. Eighty-five percent of farmworkers were settled workers, and 15 percent were migrants.

¹ Estimates with relative standard errors (RSE) higher than 30 percent are identified throughout this report. The RSE is calculated by dividing the standard error of the estimate (mean or percentage) by the estimate itself. Estimates with RSEs greater than 30 percent but no more than 50 percent are published but should be used with caution. Estimates with RSEs greater than 50 percent are considered statistically unreliable and are suppressed. The estimate of percent of workers who had work authorization through some other visa program has an RSE of 31 percent to 50 percent and should be interpreted with caution.

Demographics and Family Composition

Males comprised 66 percent of farmworkers in 2019–2020. Farmworkers had an average age of 41. Thirty-seven percent of farmworkers were under the age of 35, 44 percent were ages 35 to 54, and 19 percent were age 55 or older.

Fifty-seven percent of farmworkers were married. The percentage of farmworkers who were parents were similar to previous years (50% in both 2017–2018 and 2019–2020). At the time they were interviewed, farmworker parents with minor children living with them had an average of two minor children. Among these parents, 68 percent had 1 or 2 minor children in their household, 22 percent had 3 minor children, and 10 percent had 4 or more minor children.

Thirty-eight percent of farmworkers were living apart from all nuclear family members at the time of their interview (i.e., were unaccompanied). Seventy-six percent of these unaccompanied farmworkers were single without children, 14 percent were parents, and 10 percent had a spouse but no children.

Language and Education

In 2019, 62 percent of NAWS respondents said that Spanish was the language in which they were most comfortable conversing, 25 percent said English was, 6 percent said both Spanish and English, 6 percent said more than one language (excluding Spanish/English bilingual), and 1 percent reported an indigenous language.² In rating their English language skills, 29 percent of farmworkers reported they could not speak English “at all,” 39 percent said they could speak English “a little” or “somewhat,” and 32 percent said they could speak English “well.” In terms of their ability to read English, 40 percent of farmworkers reported they could not read English “at all.” 29 percent said they could read English “a little” or “somewhat,” and 31 percent said they could read English “well.”

The average level of formal education completed by farmworkers was ninth grade. Four percent of farmworkers reported having no formal schooling, and 35 percent reported completing the sixth or a lower grade. Twenty-two percent of farmworkers said they completed grade 7, 8, or 9, and 26 percent said they completed grade 10, 11, or 12. Fourteen percent of farmworkers reported completing some education beyond high school.

Housing

Fifty-three percent of farmworkers interviewed in 2019–2020 reported living in housing rented from someone other than their employer (relative or non-relative), 31 percent of farmworkers said they lived in a home owned by themselves or a family member, and 1 percent said they paid rent for housing provided by the government, a charity, or other organization. Fourteen percent of farmworkers lived in employer-provided housing; 11 percent received it free of charge, and 3 percent paid rent either directly or via payroll deduction.

Fifty-six percent of all farmworkers reported living in detached, single-family houses, 21 percent said they lived in mobile homes, 20 percent lived in apartments, and 3 percent³ lived in various other types of housing including duplexes or triplexes, dormitories or barracks, and motels or

² Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

³ Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

hotels. Thirty percent of farmworkers lived in “crowded” dwellings, defined as housing units in which the number of persons per room was greater than one.

Distance to Work and Transportation

When asked how far their current farm job was from their current residence, 12 percent of farmworkers reported that they lived where they worked, 72 percent lived fewer than 25 miles from their current farm job, and 14 percent lived between 25 and 49 miles from work. Seventy-three percent of farmworkers drove a car to work, 8 percent rode with others, 1 percent⁴ walked or took public transportation, and 7 percent rode with a “raitero.”⁵

Job Characteristics and Employment History

In 2019–2020, 88 percent of farmworkers were employed directly by growers, and 12 percent were employed by farm labor contractors. At the time of interview, 20 percent of farmworkers were working in vegetable crops, 38 percent in fruit and nut crops, and 24 percent in horticulture. Another 14 percent were working in field crops, and 3 percent were working in mixed crops. Twenty-eight percent of farmworkers were performing pre-harvest tasks, 20 percent were harvesting crops, 21 percent were performing post-harvest activities, and 31 percent were performing technical production tasks.

In the 12 months prior to being interviewed, respondents spent an average of 39 weeks employed in farm work and performed an average of 227 days of farm work. Farmworkers worked an average of 4 days per week for their current employer and reported an average of 46 work hours in the previous week. Most farmworkers said their basis for pay was an hourly wage (82%), and all farmworkers reported earning an average of \$13.59 per hour. Forty-five percent of farmworkers said they were covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) if they were to lose their current job, 79 percent said they would receive workers’ compensation if they were injured at work or became ill as a result of their work, and 28 percent reported that their employer offered health insurance for injury or illness suffered while not on the job.

Eighty-three percent of farmworkers reported having worked for a single farm employer in the previous 12 months, 11 percent had worked for 2 employers, and 6 percent had worked for 3 or more farm employers. At the time of interview, farmworkers had been employed by their current farm employer for an average of 8 years. Most farmworkers interviewed in 2019–2020 expected to continue doing farm work for more than 5 years or as long as possible (79%).

In the year prior to their NAWS 2019–2020 interview, farmworkers spent an average of 8 weeks living in the United States but not working and 2 weeks abroad. Twenty-two percent of farmworkers held at least one non-crop job in the previous 12 months, and those who held a non-crop job worked an average of 24 weeks in non-crop production employment.

Income and Assets

Farmworkers’ mean and median personal income in the previous calendar year was in the range of \$20,000 to \$24,999. Eight percent of farmworkers said their total personal income was less than \$10,000, 20 percent said they had personal incomes of \$10,000 to \$19,999, 30 percent had personal incomes of \$20,000 to \$29,999, and 32 percent reported that their total personal income

⁴ Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

⁵ “Raitero” is the word for a person who charges a fee for providing a ride to work.

was \$30,000 or more. Five percent of farmworkers reported not having worked at all during the prior calendar year.

Farmworkers' mean and median total family income the previous calendar year was in the range of \$25,000 to \$29,999. Three percent of farmworkers reported no family income for the prior year, 19 percent said their total family income in the prior year was less than \$20,000, another 23 percent had a family income of \$20,000 to \$29,999, and 50 percent had a family income of \$30,000 or more.⁶ Twenty percent of farmworkers had family incomes in the previous year below the poverty level.

Approximately three-quarters of farmworkers stated that they owned or were buying at least one asset in the United States (81%). The most common assets were a vehicle (reported by 80% of farmworkers) or a home (reported by 22% of farmworkers).

In 2019–2020, 13 percent of farmworkers reported that someone in their household received a benefit from at least one contribution-based program, including disability insurance, UI, and Social Security. Eight percent of households received payments from UI, 4 percent received Social Security payments, and 1 percent received payments from disability insurance. Sixty-three percent of farmworkers reported that they or someone in their household used at least one type of public assistance program in the previous two years. The most common public assistance programs used were Medicaid (44%), public health clinics (33%), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, 13%), and Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC, 9%).

Health Care

Forty-eight percent of farmworkers interviewed in 2019–2020 reported having health insurance. Among them, 26 percent said their employer provided the insurance, 39 percent reported having insurance provided by the government, 13 percent said they or their spouse paid for insurance themselves, 7 percent reported having insurance under their spouse's employer's plan, 12 percent reported that they were covered by a family member other than the spouse (e.g. a parent), and 7 percent reported that some other entity paid for their insurance.⁷ Among farmworkers with spouses, 56 percent said their spouse had health insurance. Among farmworkers with minor children in the United States or Puerto Rico, 88 percent reported that all their children had health insurance, 3 percent⁸ reported that some of their children had health insurance.

⁶ Five percent of workers reported that they did not know their family income for the prior year. Less than one percent declined to state their family income.

⁷ Percentages sum to more than 100 percent because respondents could select all that apply.

⁸ Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Department of Labor's National Agricultural Workers Survey (NAWS) is an employment-based, random-sample survey of U.S. farmworkers that collects demographic, employment, and health data in face-to-face interviews. The survey began in Federal Fiscal Year 1989; since then, more than 70,000 workers have been interviewed. The primary purposes of the NAWS are to monitor the terms and conditions of agricultural employment and assess the conditions of farmworkers. The survey also generates information for various Federal agencies that oversee farmworker programs.

The NAWS is a survey of hired workers employed in crop and crop-related work at the time of interview. To be interviewed, workers must be hired by an eligible establishment and working at an eligible task. Eligible establishments are those classified in the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) as Crop Production (NAICS code 111) or as Support Activities for Crop Production (NAICS code 1151). NAICS 111 includes establishments such as farms, orchards, groves, greenhouses, and nurseries primarily engaged in growing crops, plants, vines, or trees and their seeds. NAICS 1151 includes establishments primarily engaged in providing support activities for growing crops. Examples of support activities include supplying labor, aerial dusting or spraying, cotton ginning, cultivating services, farm management services, planting crops, and vineyard cultivation services.

Eligible tasks include work in all phases of crop production (pre-harvest, harvest, and post-harvest), as well as supervising workers, operating machinery, and packing crops. Workers who pack crops, however, are interviewed only if the packing facility at which they are employed is on or adjacent to the sampled crop producer, and the facility is owned by and primarily packs crops for that producer.

The NAWS sampling universe does not include:

- persons employed at eligible establishments who do not perform crop-related work, such as secretaries or mechanics, unless such workers also perform crop-related work; and
- Farmworkers with an H-2A visa (a temporary-employment visa for foreign agricultural workers). The Employment and Training Administration (Department of Labor) is currently assessing the feasibility of including H-2A farmworkers in future survey waves.

The NAWS is unique for its broad coverage of the characteristics of hired farmworkers and their dependents and its nearly year-round interviewing schedule. Data are collected throughout the year, over three cycles, to reflect the seasonality of agricultural production and employment. The NAWS differs from many Federal worker surveys in that it is an establishment survey (workers are sampled at their workplaces), only currently employed persons are sampled, and data are collected through face-to-face interviews with farmworkers.

The NAWS sample includes both migrant and seasonal farmworkers. The use of an employer-based sample rather than a household-based sample increases the likelihood that migrant workers will be interviewed in the NAWS. Multi-stage sampling is implemented to account for seasonal and regional fluctuations in the level of farm employment. To capture seasonal fluctuations in

the agricultural work force, the sampling year is divided into three interviewing cycles. For each cycle, there are six levels of selection:⁹

- region;
- single counties or groupings of counties called farm labor areas (FLA), which constitute the primary sampling unit;
- county;
- ZIP Code region;
- employer; and
- respondent.

The NAWS has benefited from collaboration with multiple Federal agencies, which continue to share in the design of the questionnaire. Information provided through the NAWS informs the policies and programs of the many Federal government agencies that protect and provide services to migrant and seasonal farmworkers and their dependents.

Topics Covered

This report presents information collected from face-to-face interviews with 2,172 farmworkers interviewed between October 1, 2018, and September 30, 2020. It is organized into nine chapters, each beginning with a summary of the chapter's key findings.

Chapters 1 through 3 summarize the demographic characteristics of crop farmworkers, including place of birth, ethnicity and race, work authorization, gender, age, marital status, household size and structure, education, and language ability. Chapter 4 discusses farmworkers' housing, including the type of housing, the location of their housing in relation to their jobs, and crowding. Chapter 5 summarizes the characteristics of farm jobs, including crops and tasks, job recruitment, hours and wages, and benefits. Chapter 6 gives an overview of farmworkers' participation in U.S. agricultural employment and Chapter 7 discusses workers' participation in non-crop employment, including farm jobs in other types of agriculture and periods of unemployment. Chapter 8 presents information on farmworkers' income, assets, and use of assistance programs, and Chapter 9 summarizes health insurance coverage for farmworkers and their family members, health care utilization in the United States, and barriers to health care access.

The report also contains four appendices: Appendix A describes the procedures used to select the sample, Appendix B displays a map of the NAWS migrant streams, Appendix C contains a table of the percentages and means of the principal variables presented in the report, and Appendix D contains tables of demographics and employment characteristic covering eight periods from 1989 to 2020.

⁹ A full description of the survey's sampling design is available in the Statistical Methods of the National Agricultural Workers Survey (https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/ETA/naws/pdfs/NAWS_Statistical_Methods_AKA_Supporting_Statement_Part_B.pdf).

CHAPTER 1: Birthplace, Work Authorization, and Migrant Types

Summary of Findings:

- About 6 in 10 farmworkers surveyed were born in Mexico (63%).
- Seventy-eight percent of all farmworkers were Hispanic. Among U.S.-born workers, 32 percent were Hispanic.
- Thirty-three percent of farmworkers self-identified as White, fewer than 1 percent as Black or African American,¹⁰ and 66 percent of respondents did not select a category; instead, they described race with an open-ended “other” response.
- Ten percent of farmworkers were identified as indigenous.
- Farmworkers in their first year in the United States comprised only 1 percent¹¹ of the hired crop labor force.
- Over half of all farmworkers had work authorization (56%).
- Most farmworkers were settled workers (85%). Fifteen percent were migrants.

Place of Birth

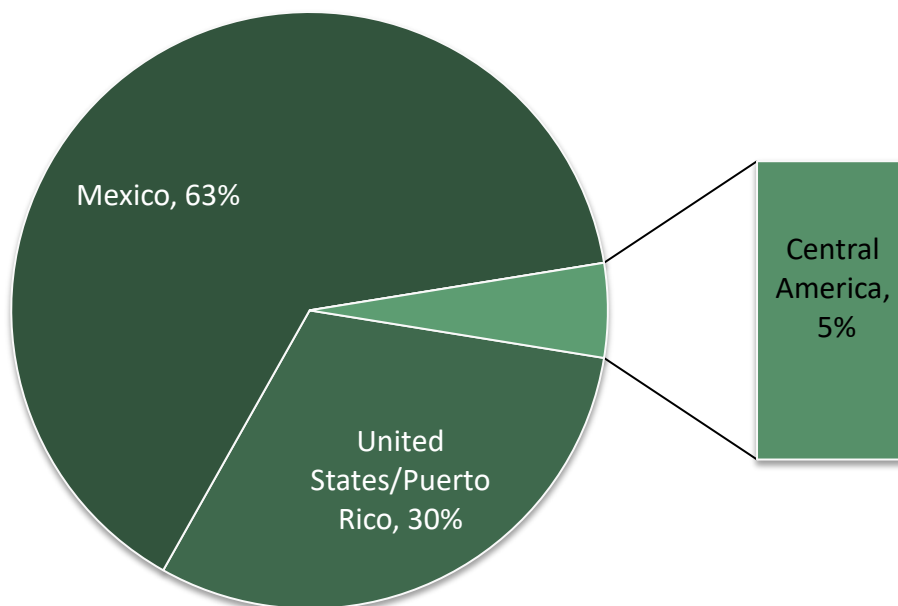
More than 6 in 10 farmworkers interviewed in 2019–2020 were born in Mexico (63%), almost one-third were born in the United States or Puerto Rico (30%), and 5 percent were born in Central America (Figure 1.1).

¹⁰ Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

¹¹ Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

Figure 1.1: Place of Birth, 2019–2020

About two-thirds of farmworkers are from Mexico.



Ethnicity and Race

Hispanic origin, as defined in the United States, can be viewed as the heritage, nationality group, lineage, or country of birth of the person or the person’s parents or ancestors.¹² Foreign-born workers may more readily identify with a national origin rather than an abstract ethnicity concept such as Hispanic or Latino. Workers born in the United States or those who have been in the United States for several years might have a better understanding of the U.S.-based ethnicity label system.

To capture Hispanic identity, farmworkers were asked to indicate which of a variety of categories best described them. Seventy-eight percent identified themselves as members of a Hispanic group: 60 percent as Mexican, 10 percent as Mexican-American, and the remaining 8 percent as Chicano, Puerto Rican, or other Hispanic. Among U.S.-born workers, 32 percent self-identified as Hispanic—18 percent as Mexican-American, 5 percent¹³ as Mexican, and 9 percent as Puerto Rican, Chicano, or other Hispanic.

Farmworker respondents were also asked to indicate the race with which they identify. Respondents had the opportunity to choose one or more race categories from the standard list

¹² Humes, K. R., Jones, N. A., and Ramirez, R. R. (2011). [Overview of Race and Hispanic Origin: 2010](#). 2010 Census Briefs (p. 2).

¹³ Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

required by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. Thirty-three percent of all respondents in 2019–2020 self-identified as White, fewer than 1 percent as Black or African American,¹⁴ and 66 percent of respondents gave an answer not on the standard list.

The categories used in the NAWS questions on ethnicity and race might not be intuitively understood by indigenous individuals who identify themselves as members of a specific community or language group rather than a more generic racial group, such as indigenous. Beginning in 2005, the NAWS began supplementing the question on primary language use with questions that ask about all adult languages spoken as well as childhood language exposure.¹⁵ The NAWS uses a combination of the responses to these questions and the question about race to identify farmworkers who are indigenous, and, in 2019–2020, ten percent of NAWS respondents were identified as indigenous.

Foreign-born Workers' First Arrival to the United States

While not a measure of continued residence, data on the month and year a foreign-born farmworker first entered the United States provides some information about migration history. For example, time in the United States since first arrival can serve as a measure of attachment to the farm workforce. However, a farmworker could have been in the U.S. for some time before joining the farm workforce.

On average, foreign-born farmworkers interviewed in 2019–2020 first came to the United States 21 years before being interviewed. Most respondents had been in the United States for at least 10 years (85%), with 71 percent arriving at least 15 years prior to their NAWS interview (Figure 1.2). One percent¹⁶ of farmworkers interviewed first arrived in the United States in the year predating their interview.

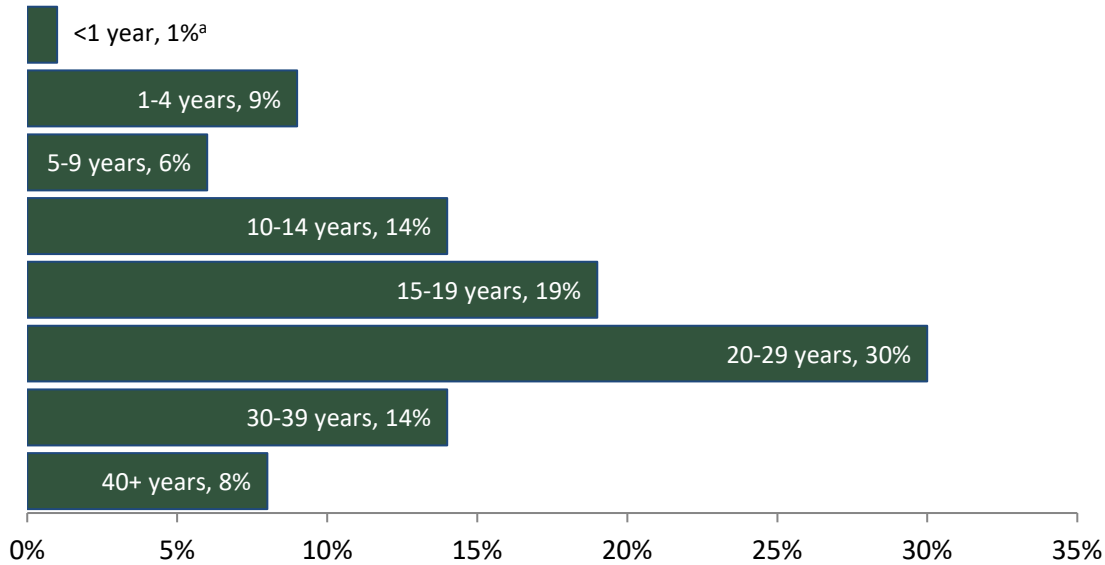
¹⁴ Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

¹⁵ Gabbard, S., Kissam, E., Glasnapp, J., Nakamoto, J., Saltz, R., Carroll, D. J., & Georges, A. (November, 2012). [*Identifying Indigenous Mexicans and Central Americans in Surveys*](#). International Conference on Methods for Surveying and Enumerating Hard-to-Reach Populations (November, 2012) New Orleans, LA.

¹⁶ Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

Figure 1.2: Years Since First Arrival to the United States, 2019–2020

85 percent of foreign-born farmworkers had been in the United States for at least 10 years.



^a Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

Foreign-born respondents were asked to report where they lived (state/department/province) before coming to the United States. Among Mexico-born workers interviewed in 2019–2020, most came from the states of Michoacán (20%), Guanajuato (11%), Oaxaca (14%), Jalisco (9%), Baja California (6%), and Guerrero (6%). The greatest proportion of Mexico-born farmworkers originated from the Western Central region (42%), 30 percent came from Northern Mexico, and another 28 percent came from Southern Mexico.¹⁷

Work Authorization

A series of related questions in the survey provides a picture of whether respondents born abroad have US work authorization. These questions address the citizenship and visa status of those who are not US citizens by birth (naturalized citizen, lawful permanent resident, border crossing-card holder, applicant for residency, temporary visa holder, or not holding a valid visa) and, when applicable, the date and program under which the individual applied for work authorization. In addition, respondents born abroad are asked whether they have authorization to work in the United States. To be classified as work-authorized, a worker must provide consistent answers that conform to visa regulations. For example, a worker who reports work authorization from a

¹⁷ The Western Central region of Mexico includes the states of Colima, Guanajuato, Jalisco, and Michoacán. The Northern region includes the states of Aguascalientes, Baja California, Chihuahua, Coahuila, Mexico City, Durango, Estado de Mexico, Hidalgo, Nayarit, Nuevo Leon, Queretaro, San Luis Potosi, Sinaloa, Sonora, Tamaulipas, and Zacatecas. The Southern region of Mexico includes the states of Campeche, Chiapas, Guerrero, Morelos, Oaxaca, Puebla, Quintana Roo, Tabasco, Tlaxcala, Veracruz, and Yucatan.

visa program that expired before he or she entered the country would be classified as unauthorized.

Fifty-six percent of farmworkers interviewed had work authorization in 2019–2020.¹⁸ Among the 36 percent who were U.S. citizens, 85 percent were born in the United States, and 15 percent were naturalized citizens. The remainder of the work-authorized population consisted mainly of lawful permanent residents (19%) with 1 percent authorized through some other visa program.

Migrant Farmworkers

The definition of “migrant” has varied across Federal government agencies and programs that provide services to migrant and seasonal farmworkers. The NAWS has defined a migrant as a person who reported jobs that were at least 75 miles apart or who reported moving more than 75 miles to obtain a farm job during a 12-month period.¹⁹

Interpreting migration patterns requires some caution. Since the analysis presented here covers only one year of farm employment data, these definitions describe movement during that particular year. The discussion below assumes that most of the workers making a move during the year were cyclical migrants. However, some portion of these workers might have been making a permanent move.

For this report, migrant farmworkers were categorized according to their migrant travel patterns. Migration consisted of moving from a “home base,” the location where the migrant spent the greatest amount of time during the year preceding his/her NAWS interview, to one or more destinations where work was available. Shuttle migrants were workers who did not work on a U.S. farm at their home base, but who traveled 75 miles or more to do farm work in a single U.S. location, and worked only within a 75-mile radius of that location. Follow-the-crop migrants were workers who traveled to multiple U.S. farm locations for work. Follow-the-crop migrants might or might not have done U.S. farm work at their home base. This report further classifies migrants into domestic migrants (those who traveled solely within the United States in the 12 months preceding their interview to do farm work) or international migrants (those who crossed the U.S. border to do farm work).

Fifteen percent of farmworkers interviewed in 2019–2020 were migrants (see Figure 1.3). Among them, nearly half (46%) were domestic (48% were international migrants (4%²⁰ international follow-the-crop and 44% international shuttle migrants), and 6 percent were newcomers who had been in the U.S. less than a year (see Figures 1.4 and 1.5).

¹⁸ The sample does not include farmworkers with H-2A visas.

¹⁹ Migrant programs often use a 24-month look-back period in their definitions of migrant. The NAWS collects data about travel to another city to do farm work during the 12 months preceding the NAWS interview and the 12 months prior to that. In 2019–2020, 19 percent of farmworkers reported that they traveled to another city to do farm work sometime during the previous 24 months.

²⁰ Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

Figure 1.3: Distribution of Settled and Migrants, 2019–2020

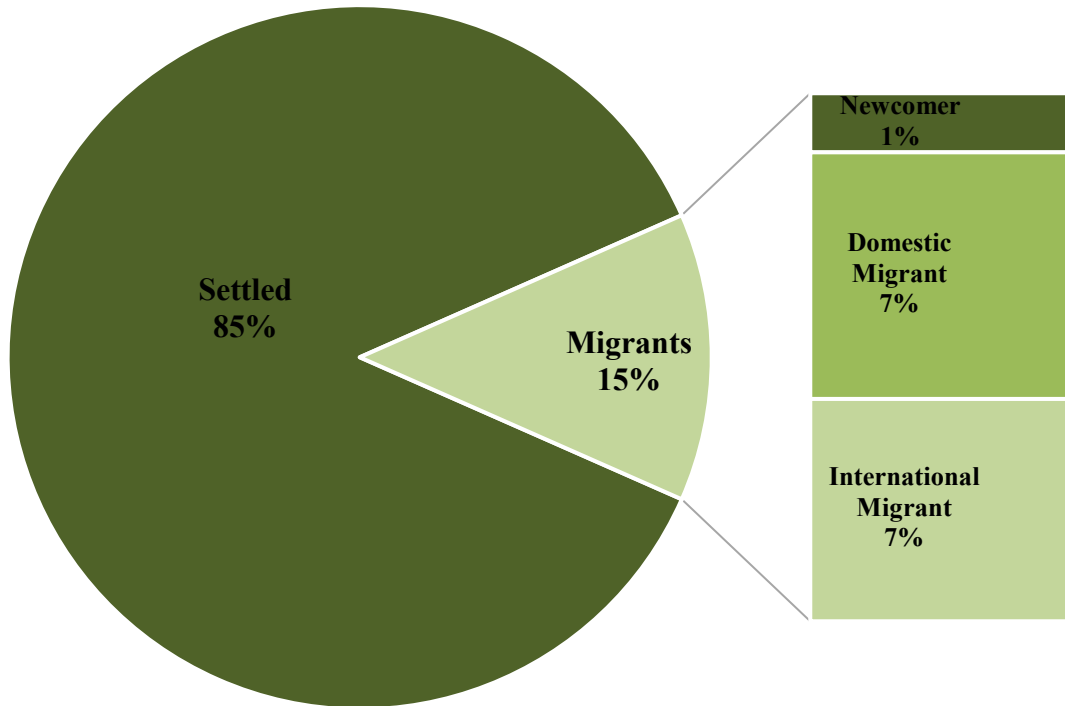


Figure 1.4: Distribution of Migrant Types (As Percent of Migrants), 2019–2020

Nearly half of migrants were **international**.

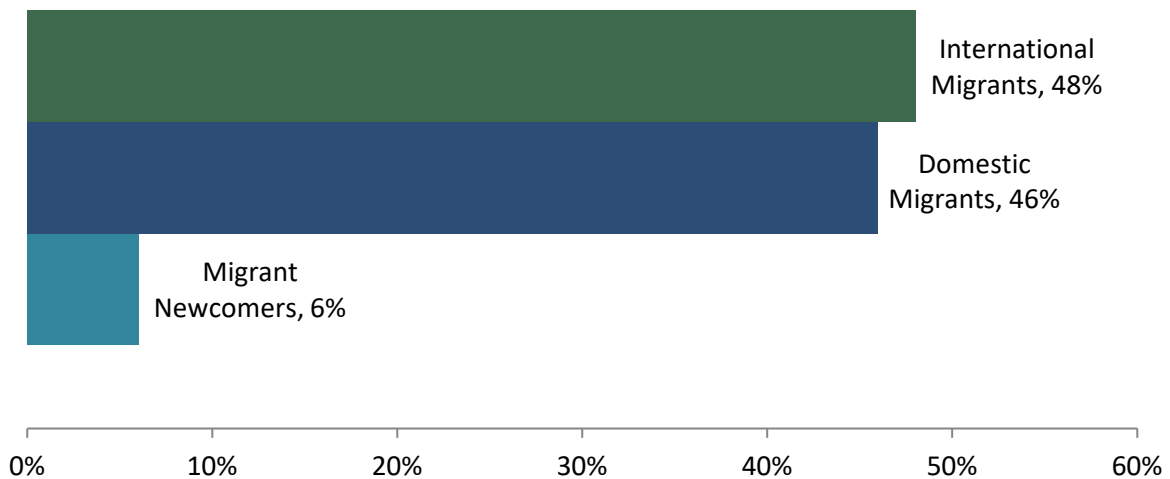
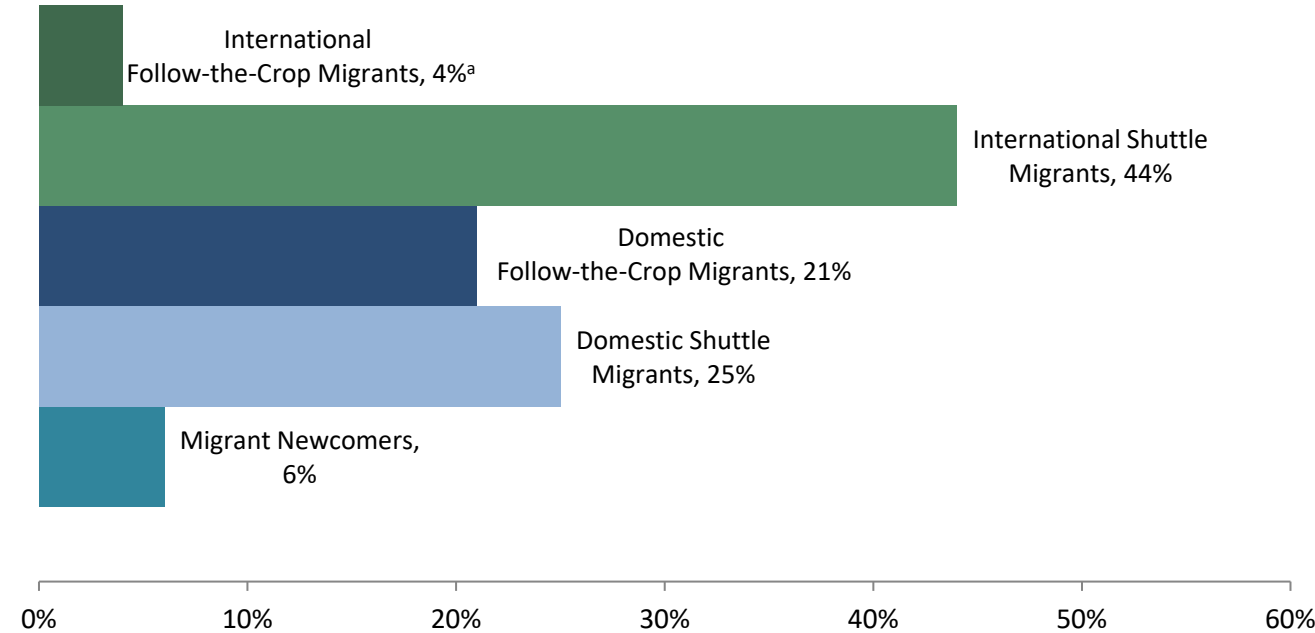


Figure 1.5: Distribution of Migrant Types According to Their Migrant Travel Patterns (As Percent of Migrants), 2019–2020

Most international migrants were shuttle migrants.



^a Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

CHAPTER 2: Demographics, Family Size, Children, and Household Structure

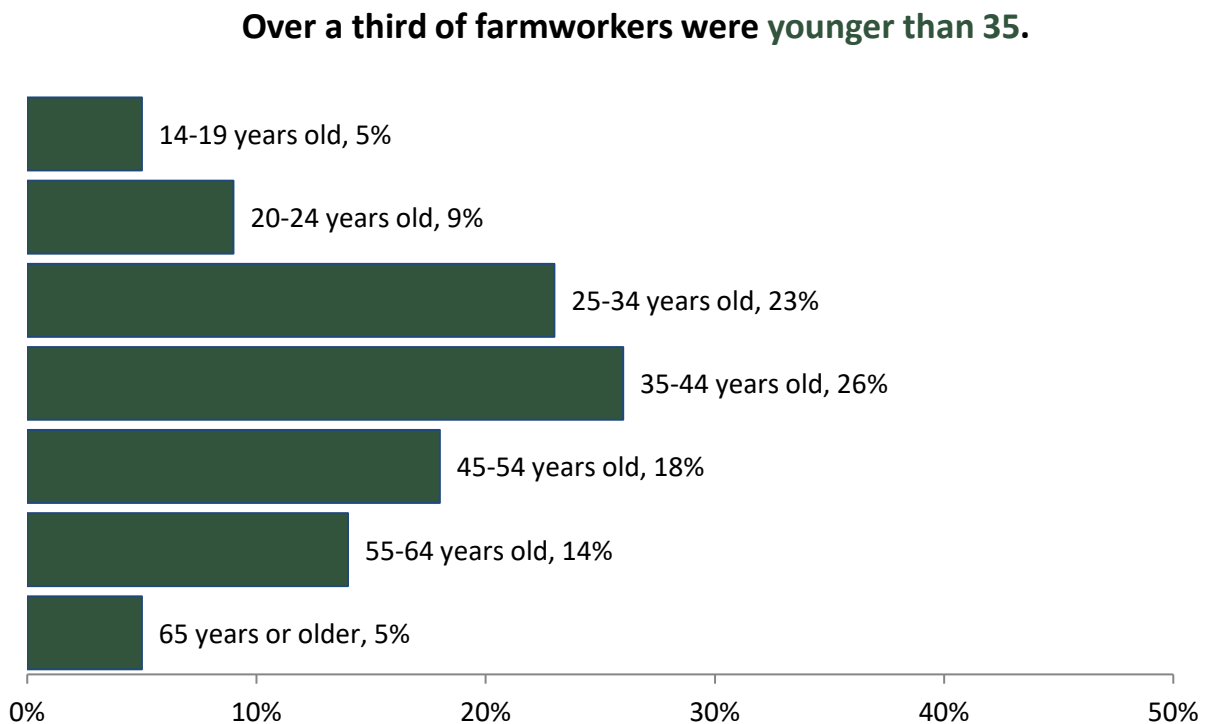
Summary of Findings:

- Sixty-six percent of interviewed farmworkers were men.
- Farmworkers' average age was 41, and median age was 39.
- Fifty-seven percent of all farmworkers were married.
- Fifty percent of all farmworkers had children.
- Thirty-eight percent of farmworkers were living apart from all nuclear family members at the time of their interview. Seventy-six percent of unaccompanied farmworkers were single workers without children, 14 percent were parents, and 10 percent had a spouse but no children.

Gender and Age

In 2019–2020, the U.S. crop labor force was predominantly male (66%) and had an average age of 41 and median age of 39. Just more than one-third of farmworkers were under the age of 35 (37%), and 19 percent were age 55 or older (Figure 2.1).

Figure 2.1: Age Distribution of Farmworkers, 2019–2020



In 2019–2020, unauthorized workers were younger than authorized workers (an average of 39 and 42 years of age respectively) and newcomers to U.S. farm work (i.e., those arriving in the United States within the year prior to interview) were younger than experienced workers (an

average of 28 and 41 years of age respectively). The average age of males and females was nearly the same – 41 and 39 years, respectively.

Marital Status and Family Type

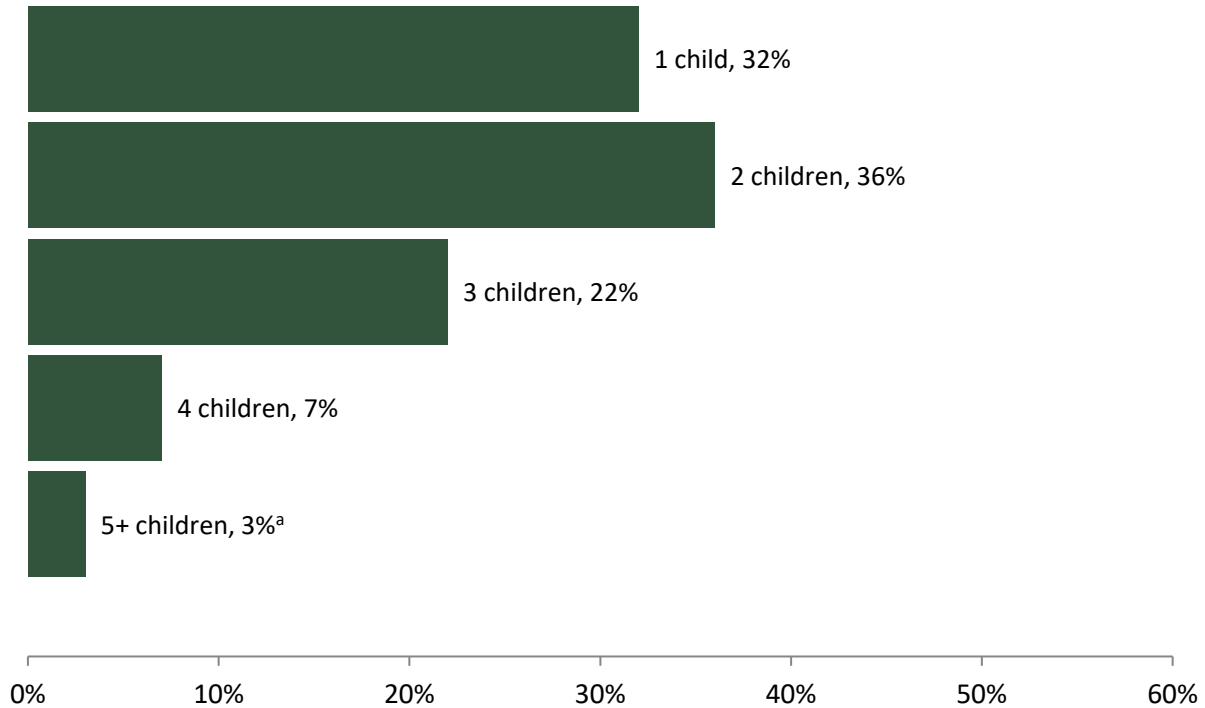
More than half of farmworkers interviewed in 2019–2020 were married (57%), and half of all farmworkers were parents (50%). Among parents, 75 percent were married or living together, 11 percent were single, and 15 percent were separated, divorced, or widowed.

Children and Household Structure

In 2019–2020, farmworker parents with minor children living in their household had an average of 2 minor children living with them at the time they were interviewed. Sixty-eight percent of these parents had 1 or 2 minor children living with them (32% and 36% respectively), 22 percent had 3 minor children, 7 percent had 4 minor children, and 3 percent²¹ had 5 or more minor children (Figure 2.2).

Figure 2.2: Number of Minor Children in the Household of Farmworkers, 2019–2020

Most farmworker parents with minor children had one or two minor children in their household.



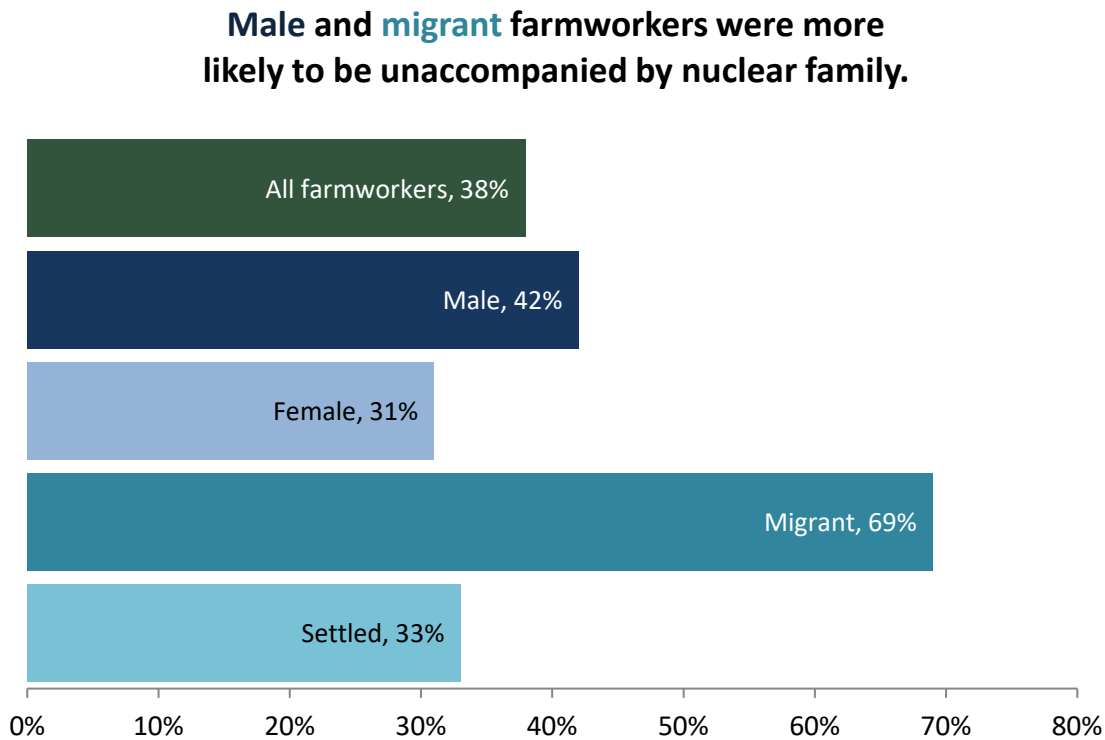
^a Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

²¹ Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

Of parents with children under the age of 18, 43 percent had children younger than age 6, 72 percent had children ages 6–13, and 42 percent had children ages 14–17. Three percent²² of parents lived away from some of their minor children, and 14 percent lived away from all of their minor children. Migrant parents were nearly four times more likely than settled parents to be living away from all their minor children (43% and 11% respectively).

“Unaccompanied” farmworkers, defined as those who were living apart from all nuclear family members (parents, siblings, spouse, and children) at the time of their interview, comprised 38 percent of the U.S. crop labor force in 2019–2020. Migrant workers were much more likely than settled workers to be unaccompanied (69% and 33% respectively) as were men when compared to women (42% and 31% respectively). See Figure 2.3. Most of the unaccompanied were single workers without children (76%), 14 percent were parents, and 10 percent had a spouse but no children.

Figure 2.3: Percent of Farmworkers Unaccompanied by Nuclear Family, 2019–2020



Among farmworker parents in 2019–2020, nearly all mothers (94%) and almost 9 of 10 fathers (86%) were accompanied by at least some nuclear family members. Similarly, among married workers without children, 77 percent of women and 81 percent of the men were accompanied at the time of the interview.

²² Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

CHAPTER 3: Language, Education, and English Skills

Summary of Findings:

- Approximately two-thirds of surveyed farmworkers reported that Spanish is their primary language (62%).
- Thirty-two percent of workers reported that they could speak English “well,” and 29 percent said, “not at all.” Thirty-one percent reported that they could read English “well” while 40 percent said, “not at all.”
- The average level of formal education completed by farmworkers was ninth grade.

Primary Language

In 2019–2020, two-thirds of farmworkers said that Spanish was the language in which they were most comfortable conversing (62%), 25 percent said English was, 6 percent said both Spanish and English, 6 percent said more than one language (excludes Spanish/English bilingual), and 1 percent reported an indigenous language.²³ Among workers born in Mexico or Central America, nearly all reported that Spanish was their primary language (87%). Of the remainder, fewer than 1 percent²⁴ said that English was their primary language,²⁵ 3 percent said both Spanish and English (bilingual), 8 percent said more than one language, fewer than 1 percent²⁶ said indigenous, and fewer than 1 percent²⁷ said other language.

English Language Skills

Farmworkers were asked two questions about their English fluency: “How well do you speak English?” and “How well do you read English?” In 2019–2020, 29 percent of workers responded that they could not speak English “at all,” 26 percent said they could speak English “a little,” 12 percent said they could speak English “somewhat,” and 32 percent said they could speak English “well.” Regarding their ability to read English, 40 percent of farmworkers reported they could not read English “at all,” 19 percent said they could read English “a little,” 10 percent said they could read English “somewhat,” and 31 percent said they could read English “well” (Figure 3.1).²⁸

²³ Estimates should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

²⁴ Estimates should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

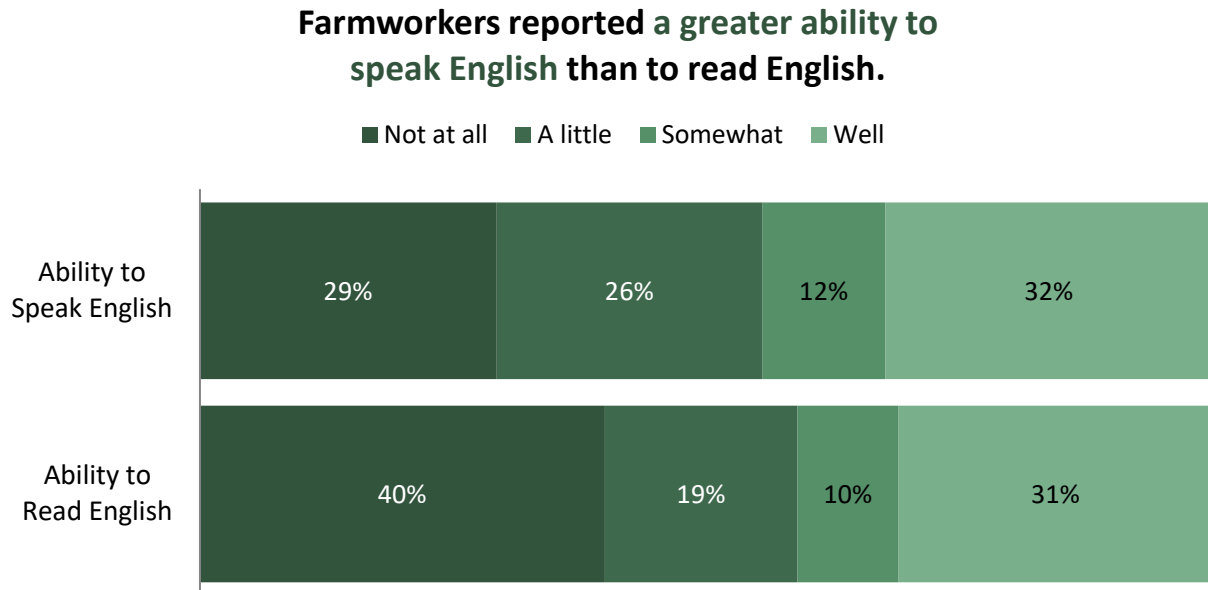
²⁵ Estimates should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

²⁶ Estimates should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

²⁷ Estimates should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

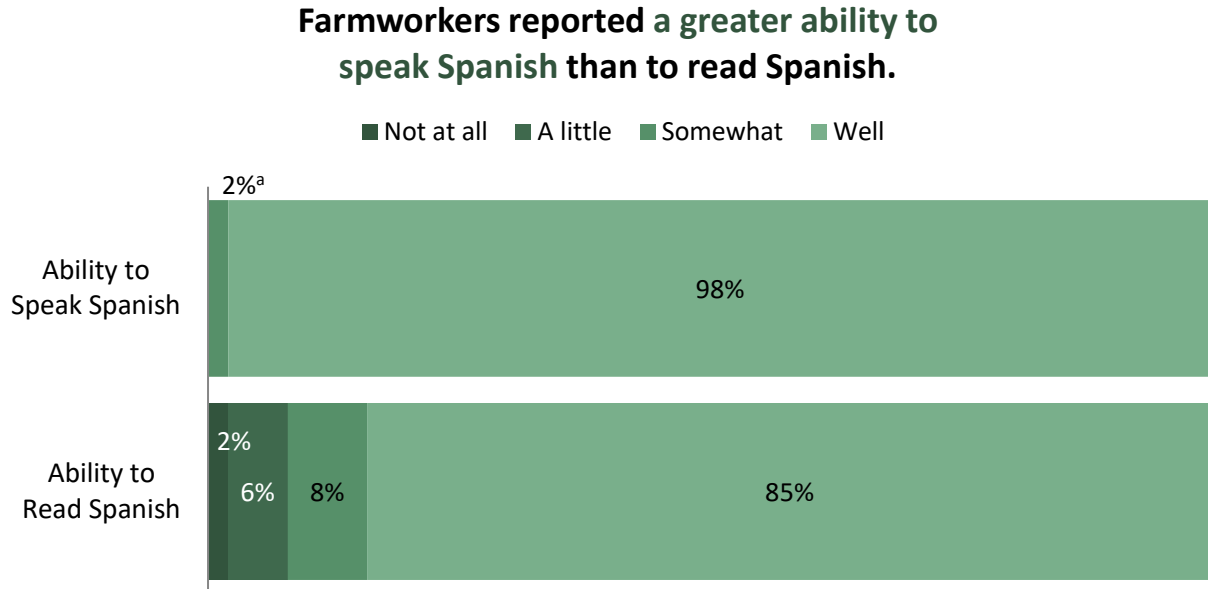
²⁸ Respondents’ self-reports of language proficiency might be higher or lower than their actual proficiency.

Figure 3.1: Farmworkers' Self-Reported English Speaking and Reading Ability, 2019–2020



Farmworkers who reported having a primary language other than English were asked to indicate how well they could speak and read in that language. Among workers whose primary language was Spanish, nearly all reported they could speak Spanish “well” (98%). In describing their Spanish reading ability, 85 percent responded “well,” 8 percent replied “somewhat,” 6 percent replied “a little,” and 2 percent replied “not at all” (Figure 3.2).

Figure 3.2: Among Farmworkers Whose Primary Language Is Spanish, Self-Reported Spanish Speaking and Reading Ability, 2019–2020

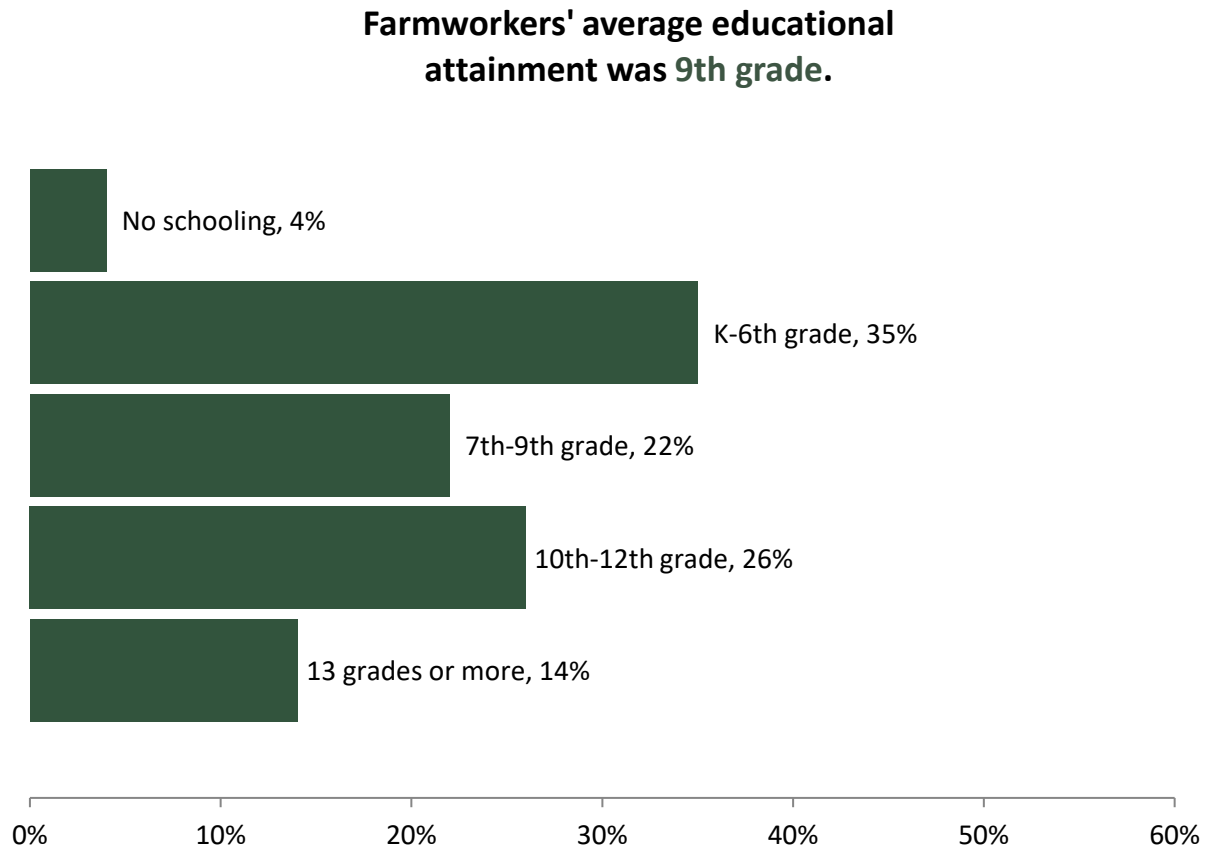


^a Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 percent to 50 percent.

Education

In 2019–2020, farmworkers’ average educational attainment was ninth grade. Four percent of workers reported that they had no formal schooling, and 35 percent reported that they completed the 6th grade or lower. Twenty-two percent of workers said they completed grade 7, 8, or 9, and 26 percent said they completed grade 10, 11, or 12. Fourteen percent of farmworkers reported completing some education beyond high school (Figure 3.3).

Figure 3.3: Distribution of Highest Grade Completed by Farmworkers, 2019–2020



The highest grade completed varied by place of birth. On average, the highest grade completed by workers born in the United States was 12th, and the highest grade completed by workers born in Mexico or other countries was 7th. Most U.S.-born farmworkers completed the 12th grade or higher (75%) as did 14 percent of Mexico-born workers.

CHAPTER 4: Housing Characteristics and Distance to Work

Summary of Findings:

- Sixteen percent of farmworkers lived in a dwelling owned or administered by their current employer—13 percent on the farm of the grower for whom they were working and 3 percent off the farm.
- Fifty-six percent of workers lived in detached, single-family houses.
- Just fewer than a third of farmworkers lived in a dwelling defined as crowded (30%).
- Seven in 10 workers lived fewer than 25 miles from their current farm job (72%), and 14 percent lived between 25 and 49 miles from work. Twelve percent of workers lived where they worked.
- Seventy-three percent of workers drove a car to work, 7 percent rode with a “raitero,”²⁹ and 2 percent took a labor bus, truck, or van.

Location of Housing and Payment Arrangement

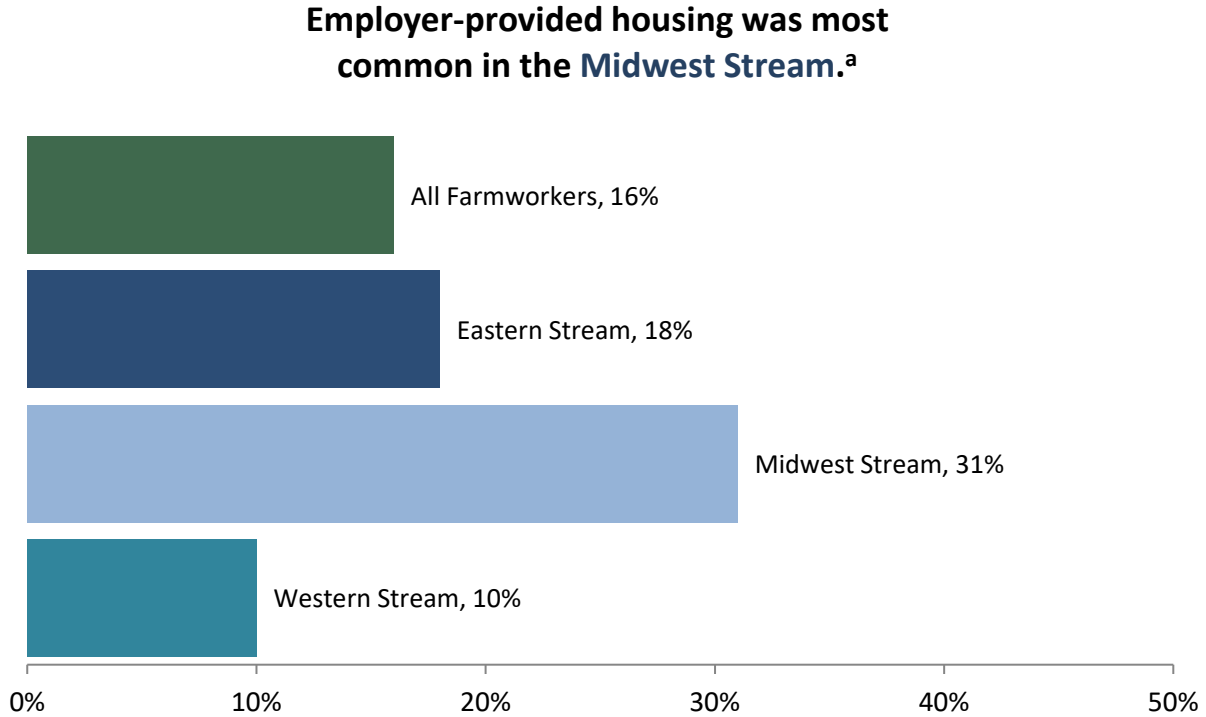
Surveyed farmworkers provided information about their housing situation (arrangement, location, type, and occupancy) while working at their current farm job. Sixteen percent of farmworkers lived in employer-provided housing (i.e., property owned or administered by their current employer), including 13 percent on the farm of the grower for whom they were working and 3 percent off the farm. The remaining 83 percent of workers lived in a property not owned or administered by their current employer.

The proportion of workers living in employer-provided housing (either on or off the employer’s farm) varied across the Eastern, Midwest, and Western migrant streams,³⁰ with 18 percent of workers in the Eastern stream interviewed in 2019–2020 reporting that they lived in employer-provided housing, 31 percent of workers in the Midwest migrant stream, and 10 percent in the Western migrant stream (Figure 4.1).

²⁹ “Raitero” is the word for a person who charges a fee for providing a ride to work.

³⁰ Migrant streams are one way of showing usual patterns of migration and the linkages between downstream and upstream states that many migrants travel in search of farm work. While these patterns are typical, some migrants may cross streams in their search for work. A map of the NAWS migrant streams can be found in Appendix B.

Figure 4.1: Percent of Farmworkers Who Lived in Employer-Provided Housing, 2019–2020



^a A map of the NAWS migrant streams can be found in Appendix B.

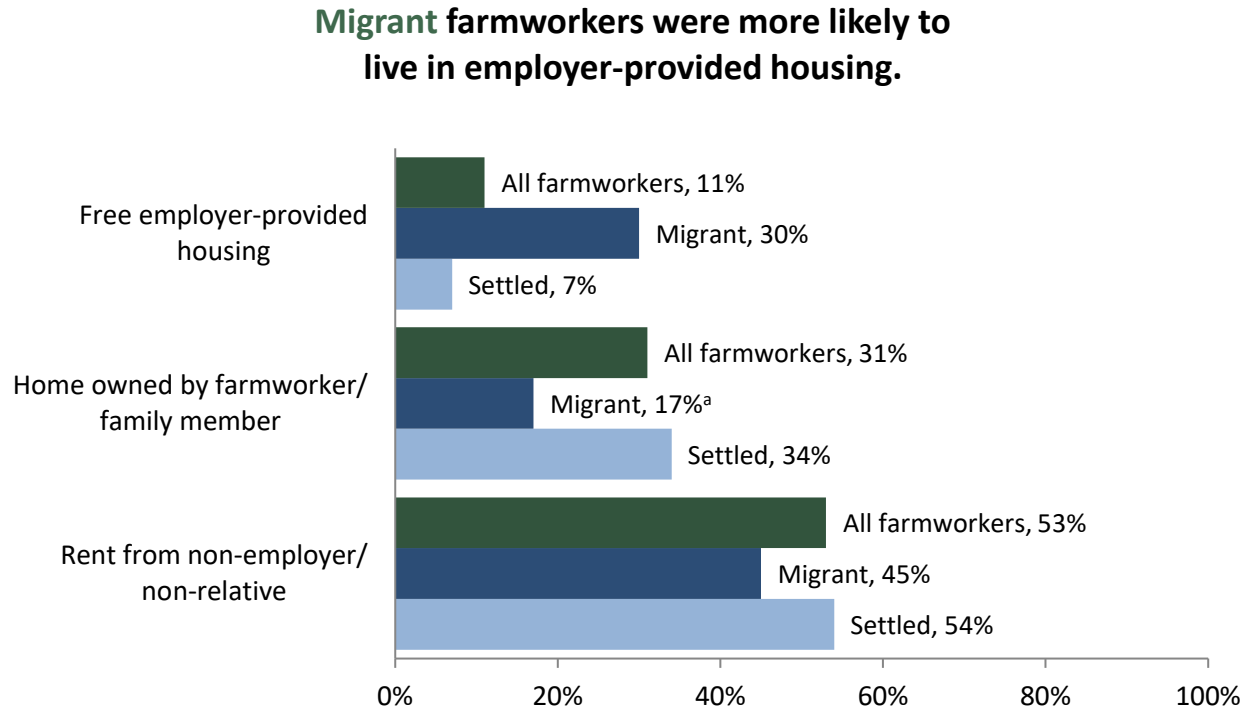
In addition to information about the location of their housing, farmworkers provided information about the payment arrangements for their housing. In 2019–2020, more than half of all farmworkers reported living in housing rented from someone other than their employer (53%); 31 percent of workers said they lived in a home owned by themselves or a family member; 1 percent said they paid rent for housing provided by the government, a charity, or other organization; and 14 percent of workers lived in employer-provided housing. Among those living in employer-provided housing, 11 percent received housing free of charge, 3 percent paid rent either directly or via payroll deduction, and fewer than 1 percent³¹ had other arrangements with their employers.

Migrant workers were more than four times as likely as settled workers to live in employer-provided housing free of charge (30% and 7% respectively) and half as likely than settled workers to live in a home they or a family member owned (17%³² and 34% respectively). See Figure 4.2.

³¹ Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

³² Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

Figure 4.2: Housing Arrangement, 2019–2020



^a Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 percent to 50 percent.

Farmworkers who reported paying for their housing were asked how much they paid at their current residence, including for their family if their family lived with them. Six percent³³ reported paying less than 200 dollars per month, 16 percent said they paid 200–399, 26 percent paid 400–599 dollars per month, and 51 percent paid 600 dollars or more per month.

Type of Housing

In 2019–2020, more than half of farmworkers reported living in detached, single-family houses (56%), 21 percent said they lived in mobile homes, and another 20 percent lived in apartments. The remaining 3 percent³⁴ lived in other types of housing.³⁵

Migrant workers were just as likely as settled workers to report living in detached, single-family homes (56% and 56% respectively), mobile homes (22% and 21% respectively), or apartments (18% and 20% respectively). Unauthorized workers were less likely than authorized workers to reside in single-family homes (41% and 69% respectively) and more likely to live in mobile homes (25% and 17% respectively) and apartments (29% and 13% respectively). See Figure 4.3.

³³ Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

³⁴ Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

³⁵ Other types of housing in which farmworkers reported living included a duplex or triplex, dormitory or barracks, motel or hotel, or “other.”

Figure 4.3: Type of Housing, 2019–2020

Type of Housing	All				
	Farmworkers	Migrant	Settled	Authorized	Unauthorized
Single family home	56%	56%	56%	69%	41%
Mobile home	21%	22%	21%	17%	25%
Apartment	20%	18%	20%	13%	29%
Other	3% ^a	b	b	1%	5% ^a

^a Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 percent to 50 percent.

^b Estimate is suppressed because it has an RSE greater than 50 percent.

Among immigrant farmworkers, the proportion living in single-family homes increased with the number of years living in the United States. Among immigrants who first arrived in the United States fewer than 10 years ago, 43 percent lived in single-family homes compared to 45 percent of those that had been in the United States between 10 and 19 years and 57 percent of those who had been in the United States at least 20 years (see Figure 4.4).

Figure 4.4: Type of Housing by Length of Time in the United States, 2019–2020

Type of Housing	In United States		
	Less than 10 Years	10-19 Years	20 Years or More
Single family home	43%	45%	57%
Mobile home	17%	23%	25%
Apartment	28%	31%	15%
Other	b	b	3% ^a

^a Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 percent to 50 percent.

^b Estimate is suppressed because it has an RSE greater than 50 percent.

In 2019–2020, farmworkers reported having an average of six rooms in the dwellings they lived in, including an average of three bedrooms, one or two bathrooms, one kitchen, and one “other” room. Nearly all workers said there was at least one bathroom in their living unit (>99%) and at least one kitchen (>99%).

Household Crowding

The measure of crowding used for this report is based on the one-person-per-room definition of the U.S. Census Bureau, Census of Housing.³⁶ Persons-per-room was calculated by summing the number of rooms (excluding bathrooms, but including kitchens) that respondents said they had in their current living quarters, then dividing the number of persons that respondents said slept in those rooms by the total number of rooms. Dwellings in which the number of persons per room was greater than one were considered crowded.

In 2019–2020, 30 percent of farmworkers lived in crowded dwellings. Migrant workers lived in crowded dwellings with greater frequency than settled workers (39% compared to 28%), and

³⁶ U.S. Census Bureau, Housing and Household Economic Statistics Division. (2011, October 31). *Crowding* (<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/housing/census/historic/crowding.html>).

unauthorized workers were nearly twice as likely as authorized workers to live in crowded dwellings (41% and 21% respectively).

Distance to Work and Transportation

When asked how far their current farm job was from their current residence, 12 percent of farmworkers in 2019–2020 reported living where they worked, 35 percent said they lived within 9 miles of their job location, 37 percent between 10 and 24 miles from work, 14 percent between 25 and 49 miles from work, and 3 percent³⁷ 50 or more miles from work.

Farmworkers used various modes of transportation to get to work. In 2019–2020, 73 percent of workers reported that they drove a car to work (even though 80% of workers said they owned a car or truck, as discussed in chapter 8), and 10 percent said they walked or took public transit. Seventeen percent of workers did not provide their own transportation but commuted via rides with others (8%); rides with a “raitero”³⁸ (7%); or rides on a labor bus, truck, or van (2%).

Among workers who did not provide their own transportation, 4 percent³⁹ reported that it was mandatory or obligatory for them to use their current mode of transportation. Thirty-three percent of workers who did not provide their own transportation reported having to pay a fee for these rides to work, and 37 percent said they paid, but only for gas. Thirty percent said they paid no fee for their rides with the “raitero,” on the labor bus, or with others.

³⁷ Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

³⁸ “Raitero” is the word for a person who charges a fee for providing a ride to work.

³⁹ Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

CHAPTER 5: Employment Patterns and Farm Job Characteristics

Summary of Findings:

- Nearly 9 in 10 surveyed farmworkers were employed directly by growers (88%), and 12 percent were employed by farm labor contractors.
- At the time of interview, 38 percent of farmworkers were working in fruit and nut crops, 20 percent in vegetable crops, and 24 percent in horticulture. Fourteen percent were working in field crops, and 3 percent were working in mixed crops.
- At the time of interview, 28 percent of farmworkers were performing pre-harvest tasks, 20 percent were harvesting crops, 21 percent were performing post-harvest activities, and 31 percent were performing technical production tasks.
- Most farmworkers reported that their basis for pay was an hourly wage (82%). Workers reported earning an average of \$13.59 per hour at their current farm job.
- Forty-five percent of farmworkers reported that they were covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) if they were to lose their current job, 79 percent said they would receive workers' compensation if they were injured at work or became ill as a result of their work, and 28 percent said their employer offered health insurance for injury or illness suffered while not on the job.

Type of Employer and Job Recruitment

Most farmworkers in 2019–2020 were employed directly by growers⁴⁰ (88%); farm labor contractors employed the remaining 12 percent. About 6 in 10 workers reported that they found their current job via references from friends or relatives (57%), and one-third secured their job after applying for it on their own (32%). Eight percent of workers were recruited by a grower, foreman, or labor contractor, and the remaining 3 percent were referred to their job by an employment service or welfare office, were hired under union-employer agreements, or found their job via some “other” means.

Primary Crops and Farm Job Tasks

At the time they were interviewed in 2019–2020, 82 percent of farmworkers reported working in fruits, nuts, vegetables, and horticultural crops (38% in fruits and nuts, 20% in vegetables, and 24% in horticulture). Fourteen percent held jobs in field crops, and 3 percent worked in mixed crops or other crops. Workers employed by farm labor contractors were more likely than those employed directly by growers to work in vegetable crops (27%⁴¹ compared to 19%) and more likely than directly-hired workers to work in fruit and nut crops (67% compared to 34%). Migrant farmworkers worked in vegetable crops with a higher frequency than settled workers (28% and 18% respectively) but were less likely than settled workers to have jobs in horticultural crops (18% and 26% respectively; Figure 5.1).

⁴⁰ Growers include owners of establishments (i.e., farms, orchards, greenhouses, and nurseries) that engage primarily in growing crops, plants, or trees, but can also include other types of crop producers, such as packers, shippers, or distributors.

⁴¹ Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

Figure 5.1: Primary Crop at Time of Interview, 2019–2020

Crop at Time of Interview	All Farmworkers	Employed by Grower	Employed by Farm		
			Labor Contractor	Migrant Farmworkers	Settled Farmworkers
Fruits and Nuts	38%	34%	67%	33%	39%
Horticulture	24%	27%	^b	18%	26%
Vegetables	20%	19%	27% ^a	28%	18%
Field Crops	14%	16%	^b	19% ^a	13%
Miscellaneous/ Multiple	3%	4%	^b	2% ^a	4%

^a Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 percent to 50 percent.

^b Estimate is suppressed because it has an RSE greater than 50 percent.

Over the course of a year and even in a single day, farmworkers potentially perform a wide variety of tasks. In the NAWS, interviewers record the task the respondent was performing just prior to the interview. Among all farmworkers interviewed in 2019–2020, 28 percent performed pre-harvest tasks such as hoeing, thinning, and transplanting; 20 percent harvested crops; 21 percent performed post-harvest activities such as field packing, sorting, and grading; and 31 percent of workers performed technical production tasks such as pruning, irrigating, and operating machinery. Workers employed by farm labor contractors were more likely than directly-hired workers to perform harvest tasks (28% compared to 19%), while similar proportions of migrant and settled farmworkers performed harvest tasks (19% and 20%). Migrant farmworkers were more likely than settled farmworkers to perform post-harvest tasks (31% compared to 19%). Workers employed by farm labor contractors were more likely than directly-hired workers to perform technical production tasks (38% compared to 31%), while settled workers were more likely than migrant workers to perform technical production tasks (33% compared to 24%; Figure 5.2).

Figure 5.2: Primary Task at Time of Interview, 2019–2020

Primary Task at Time of Interview	All Farmworkers	Employed by Grower	Employed by Farm		
			Labor Contractor	Migrant Farmworkers	Settled Farmworkers
Pre-harvest	28%	29%	17% ^a	26%	28%
Harvest	20%	19%	28%	19%	20%
Post-harvest	21%	22%	^b	31%	19%
Technical Production	31%	31%	38%	24%	33%

^a Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 percent to 50 percent.

^b Estimate is suppressed because it has a RSE greater than 50 percent.

Basis for Pay and Hours Worked

Most farmworkers in 2019–2020 reported that their basis for pay was an hourly wage (82%). Eight percent of workers were paid a salary, and 7 percent were paid exclusively by the piece.

Respondents worked an average of 46 hours in the previous week at their current farm job. Agricultural employers’ labor needs can vary by season, crop, and task, and workers are sometimes needed for longer than normal hours over short periods of time. The data reflect the fluctuating nature of labor use. For example, workers who were harvesting field crops at the time they were interviewed in 2019–2020 reported working an average of 51 hours in the previous week. Workers who performed pre-harvest tasks (such as thinning and transplanting) in horticulture, on the other hand, reported an average of 46 hours of work the previous week (Figure 5.3).

Figure 5.3: Average Number of Hours Worked in Week Prior to Interview by Crop and Task at Time of Interview, 2019–2020

Crop	Pre-Harvest Tasks	Harvest Tasks	Post-Harvest Tasks	Technical Production Tasks
Field Crops	56	51	52	51
Fruit and Nut Crops	44	41	46	45
Horticulture	46	39	55	43
Vegetable Crops	45	43	45	55
Miscellaneous/ Multiple	58	33	47	45

The average number of hours worked in the previous week also varied by workers’ age, gender, U.S. farm work experience, and payment type. Respondents ages 18 to 21 reported the fewest hours (an average of 44), and workers ages 25 to 34 and ages 51 to 54 both reported the most hours (an average of 48). Males reported working an average of 48 hours in the previous week, and females reported an average of 44 hours. Farmworkers with fewer than 2 years of experience reported the fewest hours of work the previous week (an average of 44), while those with 11 or more years of experience reported the most hours (an average of 47). Farmworkers paid a salary reported the greatest number of hours the previous week (an average of 51). Workers paid by the piece averaged 41 hours, those paid by the hour averaged 47 hours, and those paid a combination of hourly wage and piece rate averaged 38 hours of work the previous week (Figure 5.4).

Figure 5.4: Average Number of Hours Worked in Week Prior to Interview by Farmworker Characteristic, 2019–2020

Farmworker Characteristic	Average Number of Hours Worked in Week Prior to Interview
14-17 years old	45
18-21 years old	44
22-24 years old	45
25-34 years old	48
35-44 years old	47
45-50 years old	47
51-54 years old	48
55-64 years old	45
65 or more years old	45
Male	48
Female	44
Less than 2 years of farm work experience	44
2-4 years farm work experience	46
5-10 years farm work experience	46
11-20 years farm work experience	47
21-30 years farm work experience	47
31 or more years farm work experience	47
Paid by the hour	47
Paid by the piece	41
Paid combination hourly wage and piece rate	38
Paid salary or other	51

Wages

When asked how much they were earning per hour at their current farm job, farmworkers in 2019–2020 reported an average of \$13.59.⁴² Workers who were being paid by the hour earned an average hourly wage of \$13.05, and those being paid by the piece earned an average of \$14.63 per hour.

Hourly wages increased with respondents' number of years working for their current employer. Workers who had been with their current employer 1 to 2 years earned an average of \$12.97 per hour, those working for their current employer 3 to 5 years earned an average of \$13.44 per hour, and those with 6 to 10 years earned an average of \$13.93 per hour. Workers who had worked for their current employer 11 years or more earned the highest hourly wage, an average of \$14.26 per hour.

⁴² Piece rate and combination wages were converted to an hourly wage, then averaged with the wages of workers who were paid by the hour.

Among the tasks respondents reported performing at the time they were interviewed, those who worked in harvest tasks earned the highest average hourly wage, \$15.37. Pre-harvest workers earned an average of \$12.87 per hour, post-harvest workers earned an average of \$12.57 per hour, and those who worked in technical production tasks earned an average of \$13.80 per hour (Figure 5.5).

Figure 5.5: Average Hourly Wage by Farmworker Characteristic, 2019–2020

Farmworker Characteristic	Average Hourly Wage
All farmworkers	\$13.59
Paid by the hour	\$13.05
Paid by the piece	\$14.63
Paid combination hourly wage and piece rate	\$21.73 ^a
Salary or Other	\$17.43
With current employer 1 to 2 years	\$12.97
With current employer 3 to 5 years	\$13.44
With current employer 6 to 10 years	\$13.93
With current employer 11 or more years	\$14.26
Performed pre-harvest tasks at time of interview	\$12.87
Performed harvest tasks at time of interview	\$15.37
Performed post-harvest tasks at time of interview	\$12.57
Performed technical production tasks at time of interview	\$13.80

^a 2 percent of farmworkers reported being paid a combination hourly wage and piece rate at their current farm job.

Worksite Availability of Water and Toilets

NAWS respondents were asked if their current farm employer provided the following items at the worksite every day: drinking water and cups, a toilet, and water for washing hands. Ninety-two percent of farmworkers in 2019–2020 reported that they were provided with drinking water and disposable cups every day, and 5 percent said they were provided water only. A notable share of workers said that their employer provided no water and no cups (3%). Nearly all workers affirmed that they were provided a toilet every day (99%) and water for washing their hands (99%).

Pesticide Training

The NAWS asks all respondents whether, at any time in the last 12 months, their current employer provided them with training or instruction in the safe use of pesticides. In 2019–2020, 68 percent of farmworkers reported that they did receive this type of training.

Insurance Benefits

NAWS respondents were asked whether they were covered by UI if they were to lose their current job. Forty-five percent of farmworkers interviewed in 2019–2020 said “yes,” 50 percent

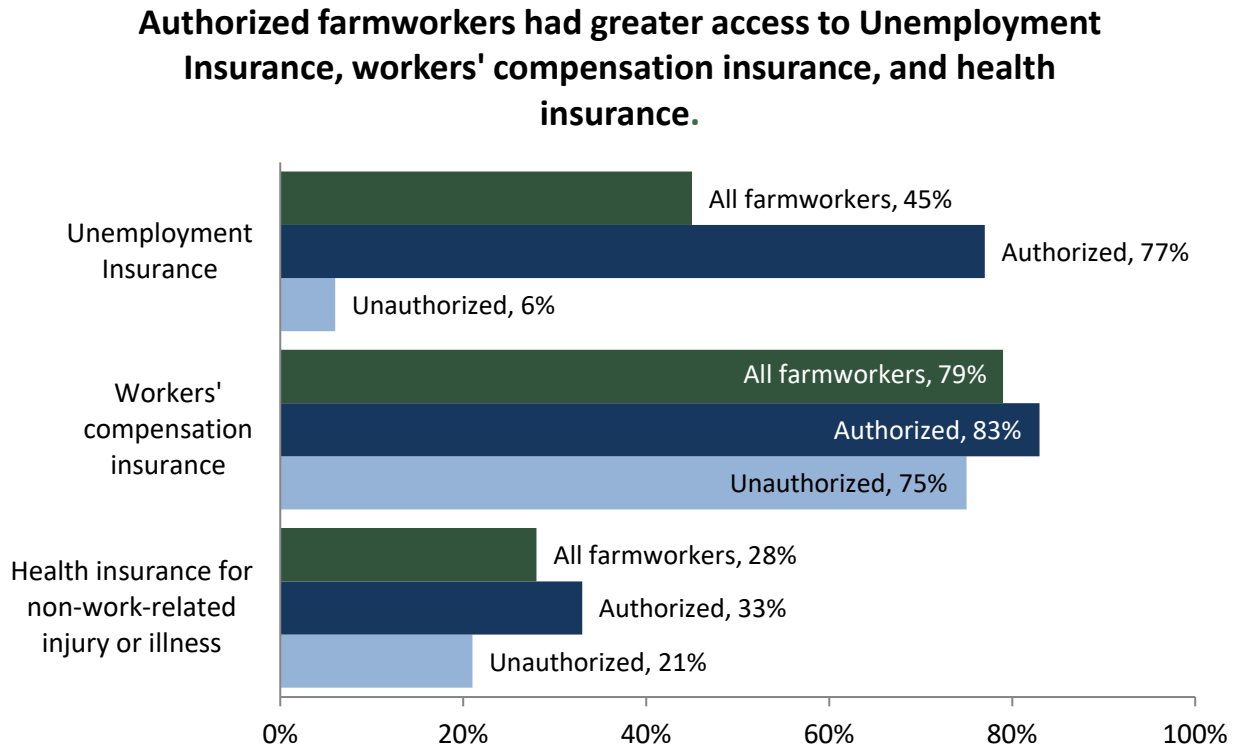
said “no,” and 5 percent did not know.⁴³ Workers with authorization to work in the United States were far more likely than unauthorized workers to report that they would be covered by UI (77% and 6% respectively). Of the 50 percent of respondents who reported that they would not be covered by UI, 81 percent were unauthorized and would not qualify for the benefit were it provided.

When asked whether they would receive workers’ compensation if they were injured at work or got sick as a result of their work, approximately 8 in 10 farmworkers said “yes” (79%), 8 percent said “no,” and 13 percent did not know.⁴⁴ Furthermore, when asked whether their employer provided health insurance or paid for medical treatment for injury or illness suffered while off the job (regardless of whether or not the worker accepted or used the insurance), 28 percent confirmed that their employer offered such a benefit, 61 percent said their employer did not, and 11 percent were unsure. Authorized workers were more likely than unauthorized workers to report that they were covered by workers’ compensation insurance (83% and 75% respectively), and authorized workers were more likely than unauthorized workers to say that their employer offered health insurance for non-work-related injury or illness (33% and 21% respectively). See Figure 5.6. A discussion of farmworkers’ participation in health insurance coverage for themselves and their family members can be found in Chapter 9.

⁴³ UI coverage varies by state. For agricultural labor in the majority of states, employers are required to pay UI taxes if they paid wages in cash of \$20,000 or more for agricultural labor in any calendar quarter in the current or preceding calendar year, or who employed 10 or more workers on at least 1 day in each of 20 different weeks in the current or immediately preceding calendar year. U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration. (2017). *Comparison of State Unemployment Insurance Laws* (<https://workforcesecurity.doleta.gov/unemploy/pdf/uiawcompar/2017/complete.pdf>, p. 1-2).

⁴⁴ The rules for workers’ compensation coverage for agricultural workers vary among states. In 14 states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, rules require employers to cover seasonal agricultural workers to the same extent as all other workers. In an additional 21 states, employers provide workers’ compensation but coverage is limited to certain classifications of agricultural employers or workers such as the number of full-time workers employed. Fifteen states have optional coverage, allowing employers to elect to provide workers’ compensation coverage to their employees, though the coverage is not required by law. In many of these states, workers’ compensation is required for employers in other industries but optional for agriculture. *A Guide to Workers’ Compensation for Clinicians Serving Agricultural Workers* (<http://www.farmworkerjustice.org/sites/default/files/Workers%20Comp%20Guide%20FINAL%20%281%29.pdf>). Farmworker Justice and Migrant Clinicians Network (2015).

Figure 5.6: Percent of Farmworkers Whose Employer Offers Health Insurance, 2019–2020



CHAPTER 6: Employment Experience

Summary of Findings:

- Eighty-three percent of farmworkers interviewed worked for a single farm employer in the previous 12 months, and 17 percent worked for two or more employers.
- Farmworkers averaged 8 years of employment with their current farm employer
- Farmworkers worked an average of 39 weeks in the previous 12 months.
- Farmworkers worked an average of four days per week for their current employer and an average of 227 days in farm work in the previous 12 months.
- Farmworkers with a full year or more of farm work experience had an average of 18 years of U.S. farm work experience.
- Workers with more years of experience worked more days in the previous 12 months.
- Four-fifths of workers interviewed (79%) expected to continue doing farm work for at least another 5 years.

Number of U.S. Farm Employers in Previous 12 Months

Farmworkers in 2019–2020 worked for an average of 1 U.S. farm employer⁴⁵ in the 12 months prior to being interviewed. Eighty-three percent of workers reported having worked for only 1 farm employer, 11 percent worked for 2 employers, and 6 percent worked for 3 or more farm employers in the previous 12 months.

Unauthorized workers were more likely than authorized workers to have worked for more than 1 farm employer in the previous 12 months (19% compared to 15%), and migrant workers were almost twice as likely as settled workers to have had more than 1 farm employer in the previous 12 months (27% compared to 15%). See Figure 6.1.

Figure 6.1: Percentage Distribution of Number of Farm Work Employers in Previous 12 Months by Farmworker Characteristic, 2019–2020

Number of Farm Employers	All Farmworkers	Migrant	Settled	Authorized	Unauthorized
One	83%	73%	85%	85%	81%
Two	11%	19%	9%	11%	11%
Three or more	6%	8%	5%	4% ^a	8%

^a Estimates should be interpreted with caution because they have RSEs of 31 percent to 50 percent.

Number of Years with Current Farm Employer

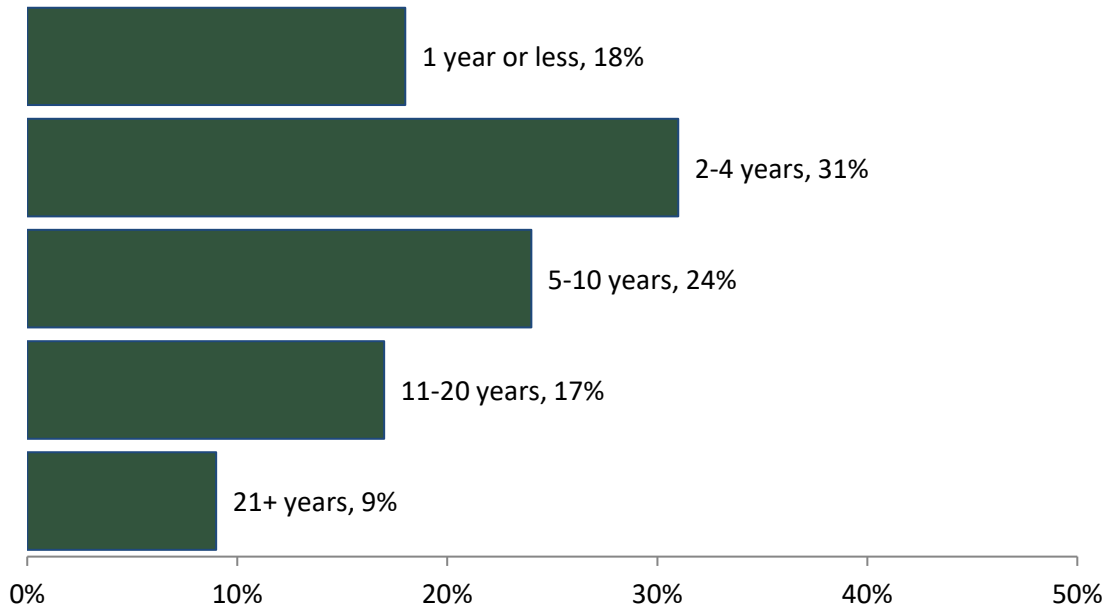
In 2019–2020, farmworkers reported working for their current farm employer for an average of eight years.⁴⁶ About 5 in 10 said they had been with their current employer for fewer than 5 years (49%), and more than 2 in 10 said they had been with their current farm employer for 11 or more years (27%). See Figure 6.2.

⁴⁵ An employer can be either a farm owner or a farm labor contractor. While a worker employed by a farm labor contractor may work on more than one farm in a year, a single labor contractor is counted as one employer.

⁴⁶ Any employment for at least one day in the year qualifies as one year.

Figure 6.2: Percentage Distribution of Number of Years with Current Farm Employer, 2019–2020

Half of farmworkers had worked for their current farm employer for fewer than five years.



Weeks and Days of Farm Work in Previous 12 Months

During the previous year, farmworkers spent an average of 39 weeks (75% of the year) employed in U.S. farm work, with farm work participation varying depending on workers' work authorization, migrant status, and place of birth. Authorized workers, migrant workers, and U.S.-born workers worked fewer weeks in farm work (averages of 35, 28, and 33 weeks respectively) than unauthorized workers, settled workers, and foreign-born workers (averages of 44, 41, and 42 weeks respectively). Youth farmworkers between the age of 14 and 17 were employed the fewest weeks in farm jobs, averaging 18 weeks of farm work in the previous 12 months, and workers aged 25 to 50 and over 50 worked the most, averaging 41 weeks in the previous 12 months (Figure 6.3).

Figure 6.3: Average Number of Weeks of Farm Work in Previous 12 Months, by Farmworker Characteristic, 2019–2020

Farmworker Characteristic	Average Weeks of Farm Work in Previous 12 Months
All farmworkers	39
Migrant	28
Settled	41
Authorized	35
Unauthorized	44
U.S.-born	33
Foreign-born	42
14-17 years old	18
18-24 years old	28
25-50 years old	41
Over 50 years old	41

For their employer at the time of interview, farmworkers reported working an average of four days per week⁴⁷ (see Figure 6.4). Over the previous 12 months, respondents worked an average of 227 days in farm work, with averages varying depending upon workers' work authorization, migrant status, and place of birth. Unauthorized workers, settled workers, and foreign-born workers averaged a greater number of days than did their counterparts: Unauthorized workers worked an average of 256 days and authorized workers an average of 204 days; settled workers averaged 238 days while migrant workers averaged 166 days; foreign-born workers worked an average of 244 days and U.S.-born workers an average of 189 days (Figure 6.4).

Figure 6.4: Average Number of Days Worked Per Week at Current Farm Job and Average Number of Days of Farm Work in Previous 12 Months by Farmworker Characteristic, 2019–2020

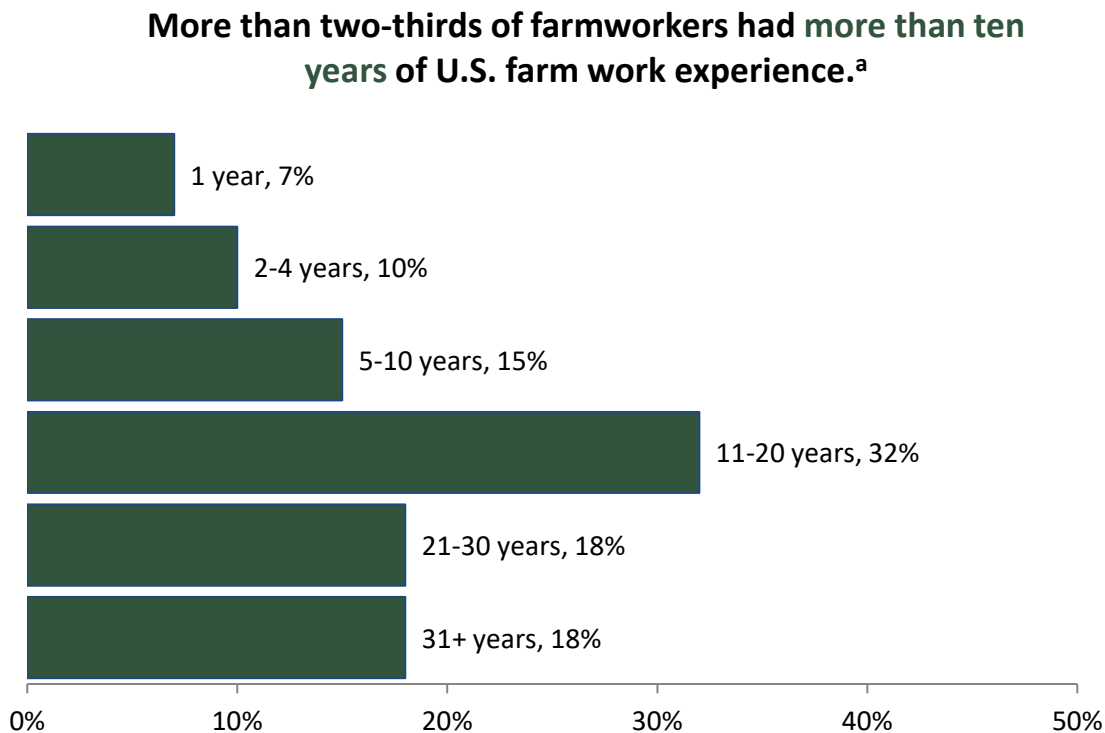
Farmworker Characteristic	Average Days Worked Per Week Current Farm Job	Average Days of Farm Work in Previous 12 Months
All farmworkers	4	227
Migrant	5	166
Settled	4	238
Authorized	4	204
Unauthorized	5	256
U.S.-born	4	189
Foreign-born	5	244

⁴⁷ Farmworkers' approximate number of workdays per year was calculated using information on each employer the respondent had in the 12-month retrospective work history. Total workdays is the sum across all of a respondent's employers of the workdays for each employer, calculated from employment dates, number of days worked per week, and number of weeks worked per employer.

Years of U.S. Farm Work Experience

Farmworkers with a full year or more of farm work experience had an average of 18 years of U.S. farm work experience. Thirty-two percent of farmworkers with a full year or more of farm work experience had worked 1 to 10 years in farm jobs, another 50 percent had worked 11 to 30 years in farm jobs, and 18 percent had worked more than 30 years in farm jobs (Figure 6.5).

Figure 6.5: Years U.S. Farm Work Experience, 2019–2020



^a Among workers with at least one year of U.S. farm work experience.

Years of U.S. farm work experience and farm workdays per year were positively correlated. Respondents who had between 1 and 5 years of farm work experience worked an average of 181 days in farm work in the previous 12 months, while those with 11 years or more of experience averaged 251 days of farm work.

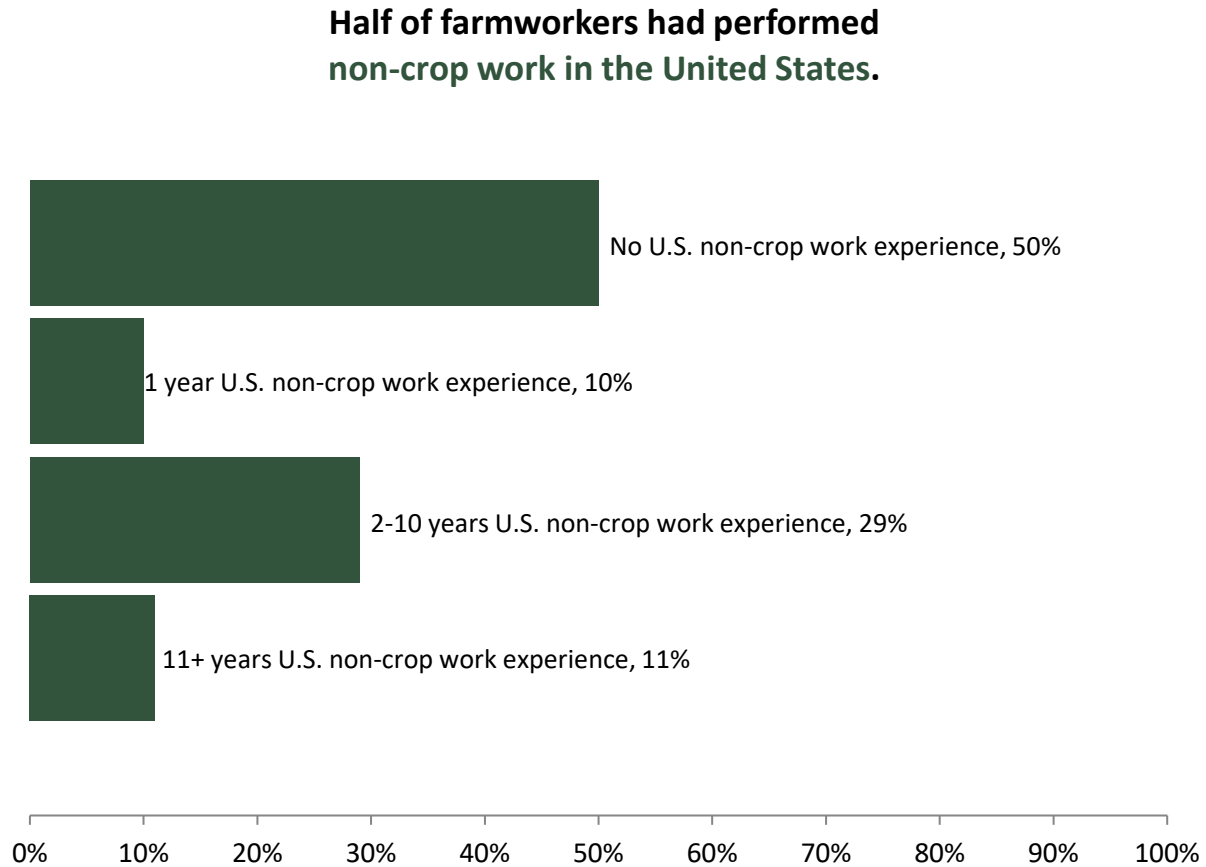
U.S. farm work experience was also related to work authorization. Thirty-eight percent of those with 1–9 years of experience were unauthorized as were 49 percent of those with 10 years or more of experience.

Other Work History

Farmworkers were asked to report the approximate number of years they had performed non-crop work in the United States. Fifty percent of farmworkers in 2019–2020 reported at least 1

year of non-crop work⁴⁸ (Figure 6.6), and they had an average of 8 years of non-crop work experience.

Figure 6.6: U.S. Non-Crop Work Experience, 2019–2020



Farmworkers were also asked to indicate the last time their parents did hired farm work in the United States. Fifty-four percent of workers said “never,” 12 percent reported that their parents were doing U.S. farm work “now” or within the last year, 3 percent said their parents last did U.S. farm work 1 to 5 years ago, 3 percent said their parents last did U.S. farm work 6 to 10 years ago, and 27 percent reported that their parents last did U.S. farm work 11 or more years ago. U.S.-born farmworkers reported parents doing U.S. farm work with greater frequency than foreign-born farmworkers (54% and 42% respectively). See Figure 6.7.

⁴⁸ Any year in which 15 days of non-crop work were performed counts as one year of non-crop work.

Figure 6.7: Last Time Parents Did Hired Farm Work in United States, 2019–2020

Last Time Parents Did U.S. Farm Work	All		
	Farmworkers	U.S.-Born	Foreign-Born
Never	54%	45%	57%
Now/within last year	12%	21%	8%
1 to 5 years ago	3%	1% ^a	3%
6 to 10 years ago	3%	5% ^a	3%
More than 10 years ago	27%	26%	28%
Don't know	1%	2% ^a	<1% ^a

^a Estimates should be interpreted with caution because they have RSEs of 31 percent to 50 percent.

Plans to Remain in Farm Work

When asked how long they expected to continue to do farm work, 79 percent of workers interviewed in 2019–2020 believed they would continue for more than 5 years, and most workers indicated that they would continue as long as they are able to do the work (76%). Four percent of respondents said they would continue working in agriculture for less than one year, 11 percent planned to remain in farm work for 1 to 3 years, and 5 percent said they would continue in farm work for 4 to 5 years. See Figure 6.8. Further breakdown of workers' plans to remain in farm work by place of birth, work authorization, migrant status, gender, educational attainment, and age are shown in Figures 6.8–6.10. Workers who were not born in the U.S. or were unauthorized were more likely to plan to work as long as they are able and less likely to plan to work for 1–3 years (Figure 6.8). Settled workers and those with educational attainment of 12th grade or less were more likely to plan to work for as long as they are able, and a similar percentage of males and females reported they plan to work as long as they are able (Figure 6.9). When looking at age groups, younger workers are more likely to report that they plan to work for 1–3 years compared to older workers, and older workers are more likely to report that they plan to work for as long as they are able compared to younger workers (Figure 6.10).

Figure 6.8: Plans to Remain in Farm Work by Place of Birth and Work Authorization, 2019–2020

Number of Years	All Farmworkers	U.S. Born	Foreign Born	Authorized	Unauthorized
Less than one year	4%	8%	2% ^a	6%	1% ^a
1-3 years	11%	19%	7%	14%	7%
4-5 years	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
Over 5 years	3%	6% ^a	2%	4% ^a	2%
Over 5 years/as long as I am able	76%	61%	82%	70%	84%
Other	b	b	b	b	b

^a Estimates should be interpreted with caution because they have RSEs of 31 percent to 50 percent.

^b Estimates are suppressed because number of responses is fewer than 4 or relative standard errors for the estimates are greater than 50%.

Figure 6.9: Plans to Remain in Farm Work by Migrant Status, Gender, and Educational Attainment, 2019–2020

Number of Years	Settled	Migrant	Male	Female	Did Not Complete 12th grade	Completed 12th grade or more
Less than one year	3%	11% ^a	4%	3% ^a	3% ^a	6%
1-3 years	10%	16%	11%	11%	9%	16%
4-5 years	4%	7% ^a	5%	5%	4%	6%
Over 5 years	3% ^a	b	3% ^a	2%	1%	6% ^a
Over 5 years/as long as I am able	79%	57%	76%	76%	83%	62%
Other	1% ^a	b	1% ^a	b	<1% ^a	b

^a Estimates should be interpreted with caution because they have RSEs of 31 percent to 50 percent.

^b Estimates are suppressed because number of responses is fewer than 4 or relative standard errors for the estimates are greater than 50%.

Figure 6.10: Plans to Remain in Farm Work by Age Group, 2019–2020

Age groups	14-17	18-24	25-50	Over 50
Less than one year	46% ^a	8%	2% ^a	b
1-3 years	35% ^a	30%	8%	8%
4-5 years	b	5% ^a	4%	6%
Over 5 years	b	2% ^a	2% ^a	b
Over 5 years/as long as I am able	b	46%	84%	77%
Other	b	b	<1% ^a	b

^a Estimates should be interpreted with caution because they have RSEs of 31 percent to 50 percent.

^b Estimates are suppressed because number of responses is fewer than 4 or relative standard errors for the estimates are greater than 50%.

CHAPTER 7: Non-Crop Work Activities During the Year

Summary of Findings:

- During the previous year, surveyed farmworkers spent an average of 39 weeks employed in farm work and 13 weeks not employed in farm work, including an average of 8 weeks living in the United States while not working and 2 weeks abroad.
- Twenty-two percent of farmworkers said they held at least one U.S. non-crop job during the previous year.
- The most common types of non-crop jobs held were mechanic, repair, or maintenance jobs (46%) and non-crop agriculture jobs (20%).
- About 7 in 10 farmworker respondents reported at least 1 period in the 12 months prior to their interview during which they did not work (66%), and these workers averaged 15 weeks without employment. Fourteen percent of these respondents said they received UI during at least one of their periods of unemployment.

Time Spent Not Employed or Abroad in Previous 12 Months

During the previous year, farmworkers spent an average of 39 weeks employed in farm work and 13 weeks not employed in agriculture. On average, they lived in the United States but did not work for approximately 8 weeks (15% of the year) and were abroad for an average of 2 weeks (4% of the year). The number of weeks spent not working and time abroad varied depending on workers' work authorization, migrant status, and place of birth. Unauthorized, settled, and foreign-born farmworkers spent, on average, fewer weeks in the United States not working (6, 7, and 6 weeks respectively) than authorized, migrant, and U.S.-born farmworkers (9, 10, and 11 weeks respectively). Migrant workers averaged 11 weeks abroad during the previous year.

Youth farmworkers between the ages of 14 and 17 had the most weeks spent not working while in the United States—35 weeks, or more than two-thirds of the year. Respondents ages 18 to 24 spent an average of 14 weeks not working and 3 weeks⁴⁹ abroad, and respondents ages 25 years and older averaged 5 to 8 weeks in the United States not working and 2 weeks abroad (Figure 7.1).

⁴⁹ Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

Figure 7.1: Average Number of Weeks Not Employed and Abroad in Previous 12 Months, 2019–2020

Farmworker Characteristic	Weeks in United States and Not Working	Weeks Abroad
All farmworkers	8	2
Migrant	10	11
Settled	7	^b
Authorized	9	3
Unauthorized	6	1
U.S.-born	11	^b
Foreign-born	6	2
14-17 years old	35	^b
18-24 years old	14	3
25-50 years old	5	2 ^a
Over 50 years old	8	2

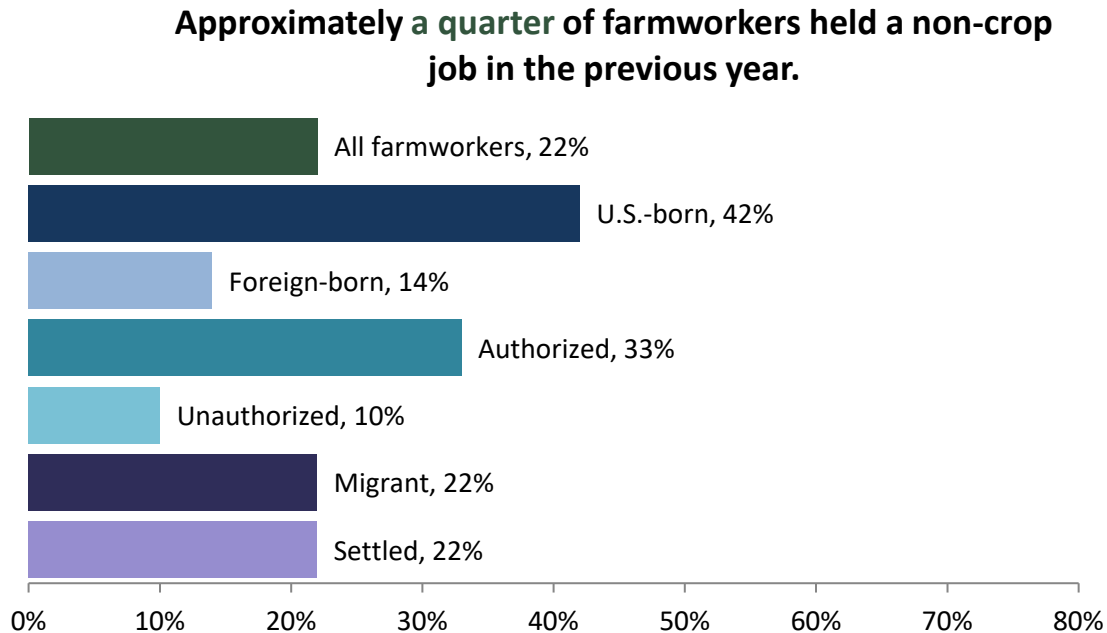
^a Estimates should be interpreted with caution because they have RSEs of 31 percent to 50 percent.

^b Estimate is suppressed because it has an RSE greater than 50 percent.

Non-Crop Work in Previous 12 Months

Twenty-two percent of farmworkers reported at least one job during the previous year that was not in U.S. crop production. U.S.-born workers were three times more likely than foreign-born workers to have had a non-crop job in the previous 12 months (42% compared to 14%), and authorized workers were more than three times as likely as unauthorized workers to have had a non-crop job (33% compared to 10%). See Figure 7.2.

Figure 7.2: Percent of Farmworkers Who Held a Non-Crop Job the Previous Year, 2019–2020



The 22 percent of farmworkers who reported doing non-crop work during the previous year spent an average of 24 weeks in non-crop employment, and they held an average of 1 non-crop job. The most common types of non-crop jobs⁵⁰ were mechanic, repair, or maintenance jobs (46%) and non-crop agriculture (20%). Twelve percent did structural or extractive work;⁵¹ 10 percent held a sales, service, or production job in the food industry; 8 percent⁵² held a sales, service, or manufacturing job in a non-food industry; 3 percent⁵³ had a professional, technical, or managerial job; and 15 percent held other types of jobs, including clerical, government service, health, arts and entertainment, and transportation (Figure 7.3).

⁵⁰ Some non-crop jobs are farm jobs in other types of agriculture.

⁵¹ Structural jobs, as coded in the NAWS, include working in construction. Extractive jobs involve the removal of raw materials from the earth. Examples of extractive processes include oil and gas extraction, mining, dredging and quarrying. <http://www.businessdictionary.com/definition/extractive-industry.html>

⁵² Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

⁵³ Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

Figure 7.3: Types of Non-Crop Jobs Held in Previous 12 Months, 2019–2020

Type of Non-Crop Job ^a	Percent of Workers Who Held At Least One Non-Crop Job
Mechanic/Repair/Maintenance	46%
Non-Crop Agriculture	20%
Structural/Extractive Work	12%
Food Industry -- Sales/Service/Production	10%
Non-food Industry-- Sales/Service/Manufacturing	8% ^b
Professional/Technical/Manager	3% ^b
Other	15%

^a Respondents may have reported multiple types of jobs.

^b Estimates should be interpreted with caution because they have RSEs of 31 percent to 50 percent.

Reasons for Leaving Non-Crop Work in Previous Year

Among the 22 percent of farmworkers who reported doing non-crop employment during the previous year, 53 percent left at least one of their non-crop jobs. The NAWS sample includes only farmworkers actively employed in crop agriculture at the time of interview. However, some workers hold non-crop jobs and farm jobs simultaneously, and some perform non-crop work for their agricultural employers, thus changing jobs but not separating from the employer.

Whenever respondents reported having separated from an employer, they were asked the reason why. Approximately 7 in 10 workers (69%) who left a non-crop employer during the previous year reported leaving for voluntary reasons (“family responsibilities,” “school,” “moved,” “health reasons,” “vacation,” “retired,” “quit,” or “changed jobs”). More than one quarter of workers (30%) said their exits from non-crop work were involuntary in nature (“lay off/end of season” or “fired”). The remaining workers reported both voluntary and involuntary leaves from non-crop work.

Periods of Unemployment During the Year

About 7 in 10 farmworker respondents in 2019–2020 reported at least 1 period in the 12 months prior to their interview during which they did not work (66%), and these respondents averaged 15 weeks without employment. Each time a respondent reported a period of not working during the 12-month retrospective work history (66%), the respondent was asked about receiving UI benefits during that time. Fourteen percent of these respondents said “yes,” they had received UI benefits during at least one of their periods of unemployment.

CHAPTER 8: Income, Assets, and Use of Assistance Programs

Summary of Findings:

- Interviewed farmworkers' mean and median personal incomes the previous year were in the range of \$20,000 to \$24,999. Eight percent of workers earned less than \$10,000; 32 percent earned \$30,000 or more.
- Farmworkers' mean and median total family incomes the previous year were in the range of \$25,000 to \$29,999. Nineteen percent of farmworkers reported total family income of less than \$20,000, another 23 percent said their family income was \$20,000 to \$29,999, and 50 percent had a family income of \$30,000 or more.
- One-fifth of farmworkers had family incomes below the poverty level (20%).
- Eighty-one percent of farmworkers said they owned or were buying at least one asset in the United States. The most common assets listed were a vehicle (reported by 80% of workers) or a type of dwelling, such as a house, mobile home, condominium, or apartment (22% of workers).
- Thirteen percent of farmworkers reported that they or someone in their household had received some form of benefit from a contribution-based program in the previous 2 years; 63 percent said someone in their household had received some form of benefit from a needs-based program in the previous 2 years.

Income

Farmworkers were asked to report their total personal income in the calendar year prior to the year in which they were interviewed. Rather than providing a specific sum, respondents answered the question by indicating a range in which their income fell. Farmworkers' mean and median personal incomes the previous year were in the range of \$20,000 to \$24,999. Five percent of farmworkers interviewed in 2019–2020 reported not working at all during the prior calendar year, 8 percent said their total personal income was less than \$10,000, 20 percent said they had personal incomes of \$10,000 to \$19,999, another 30 percent reported personal incomes of \$20,000 to \$29,999, and 32 percent reported total personal income of \$30,000 or more. Four percent of farmworkers said they were unsure of their personal income for the previous year.

In addition to the question about personal income, workers were asked to report their total family income in the previous calendar year. For this question as well, respondents answered by indicating a range in which their income fell. Workers' mean and median total family incomes in the previous year were in the range of \$25,000 to \$29,999. Three percent of farmworkers reported that they or their family had no earned income during the previous calendar year. Six percent of workers said their total family income the prior year was less than \$10,000, 13 percent said their family income was \$10,000 to \$19,999, 23 percent had a family income of \$20,000 to \$29,999, and 50 percent had a family income of \$30,000 or more. Five percent of farmworkers reported not knowing their family's total income for the previous year.

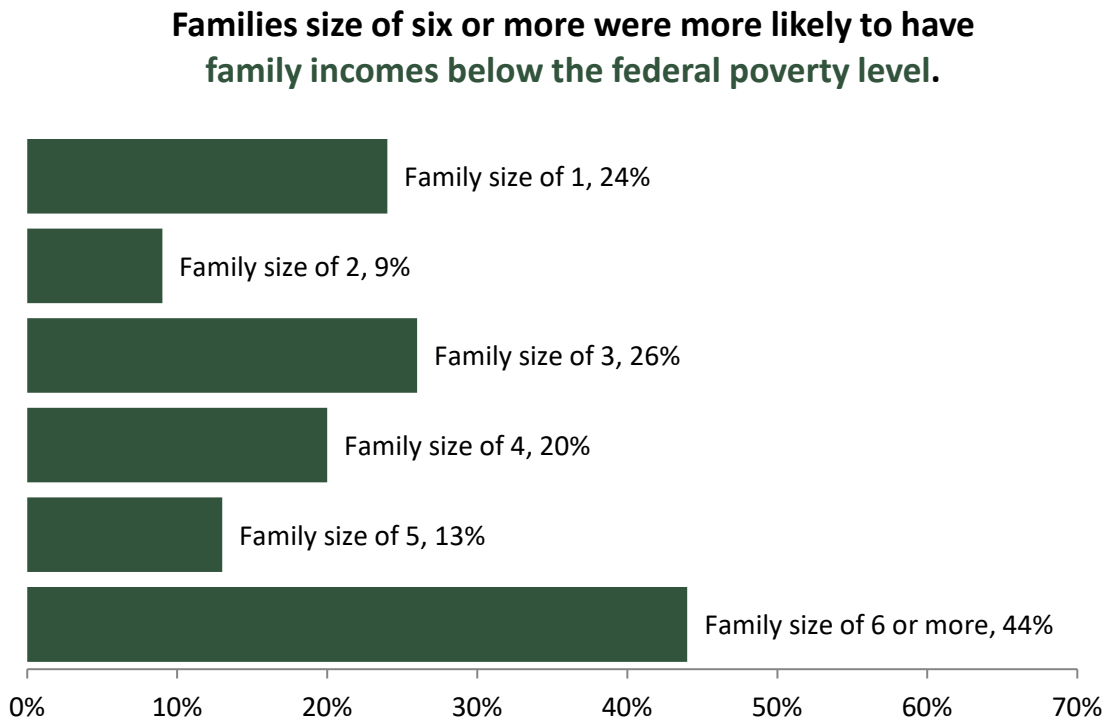
To determine farmworkers' poverty status, each worker's total family income was compared to a poverty threshold based on family size⁵⁴ from the U.S. Department of Health and Human

⁵⁴ Family size is defined as the number of family members who are living in the United States and who depend on the farmworker's income. Income was imputed for farmworkers with no income information.

Services’ poverty guidelines⁵⁵ for the calendar year preceding the interview.⁵⁶ Using this method, 20 percent of farmworkers in 2019–2020 were found to have family incomes below the poverty threshold.

Below-poverty income was more common among farmworkers with larger families (see Figure 8.1). Almost half of farmworkers with a family size of 6 or more had incomes below the poverty level (44%).⁵⁷ Farmworkers with a family size of one also had an elevated poverty rate (24%). Migrant workers’ family incomes fell below poverty at a much greater rate than settled workers’ (44% compared to 16%). See Figure 8.2.

Figure 8.1: Percent of Farmworkers with Total Family Income Below Poverty Level by Family Size, 2019–2020



Note: For family size of three, the 26% estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

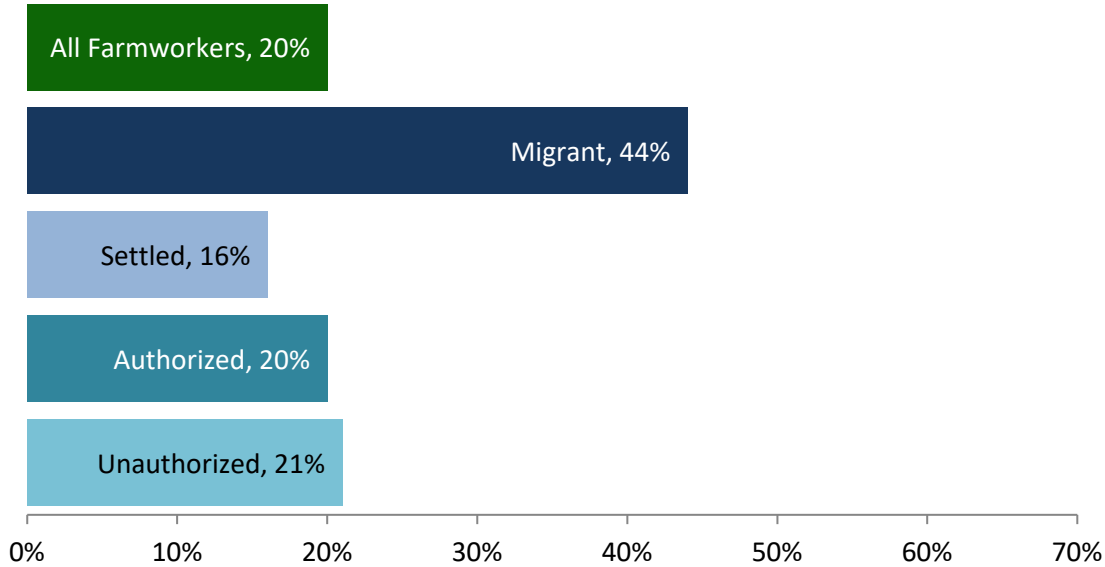
⁵⁵ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services poverty guidelines (<https://aspe.hhs.gov/prior-hhs-poverty-guidelines-and-federal-register-references>).

⁵⁶ Workers’ family income and poverty levels were based on their income in the United States but were not adjusted for time in the United States. For additional information on the limitations of using traditional poverty statistics with migrant populations please see Pena’s (2013) article on “Poverty Measurement for a Binational Population.”

⁵⁷ Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

Figure 8.2: Percent of Farmworkers with Total Family Income Below Poverty Level by Farmworker Characteristic, 2019–2020

Migrant and unauthorized farmworkers were more likely to have family incomes below the federal poverty level.



Assets in the United States and Abroad

Respondents were asked about assets they own or are buying in the United States and, if foreign-born, in their home country. In 2019–2020, more than three-quarters of all farmworkers said they owned or were buying at least one asset in the United States (81%). U.S.-born workers were more likely to report that they owned or were buying an asset in the United States (86%) compared to foreign-born workers (79%). Among all workers, the most commonly held asset in the United States was a car or truck (80%) followed by housing (22%). See Figure 8.3. U.S.-born workers were more likely to own or be buying housing in the United States (29%) than were foreign-born workers (19%).

Figure 8.3: Assets in the United States, 2019–2020

Type of Asset in the United States	Percent of Farmworkers
Any asset	81%
A car or truck	80%
A type of housing (house, mobile home, condominium, apartment)	22%

Use of Contribution- and Need-Based Programs

In 2019–2020, farmworkers were asked whether they or anyone in their household received assistance from either contribution- or need-based programs in the two-year period preceding the interview. Contribution-based benefits include disability insurance, Unemployment Insurance, Social Security, and veterans’ pay. Thirteen percent of the farmworkers reported someone in

their household receiving a benefit from at least one contribution-based program. Eight percent of farmworkers reported that they or a family member received payments from UI, 4 percent said someone in their household received Social Security payments, and 1 percent said they or a family member received payments from disability insurance.

Need-based benefits include financial assistance through programs such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), general assistance or welfare, and publicly provided housing or medical and nutritional assistance such as Medicaid, Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).⁵⁸ In 2019–2020, 63 percent of farmworkers reported that they or someone in their household used at least one type of need-based assistance in the previous two years. The programs most commonly used were Medicaid (44%), public health clinics (33%), SNAP (13%), WIC (9%), and welfare (general assistance) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) (2%⁵⁹). See Figure 8.4.

Figure 8.4: Percent of Farmworkers Who Reported That a Member of the Household Received Benefits from Contribution- or Needs-Based Programs in the Last Two Years, 2019–2020

Contribution- and Need-Based Programs Utilized	Percent of Farmworkers
Any contribution-based program	13%
UI	8%
Social Security	4%
Disability	1%
Any need-based program	63%
Medicaid	44%
Public health clinic	33%
SNAP	13%
WIC	9%
Welfare (general assistance) or TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)	2% ^a

^a Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 percent to 50 percent.

⁵⁸ The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP was named The Federal Food Stamps Program until October 2008.

⁵⁹ Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 percent to 50 percent.

CHAPTER 9: Health Care in the United States

Summary of Findings:

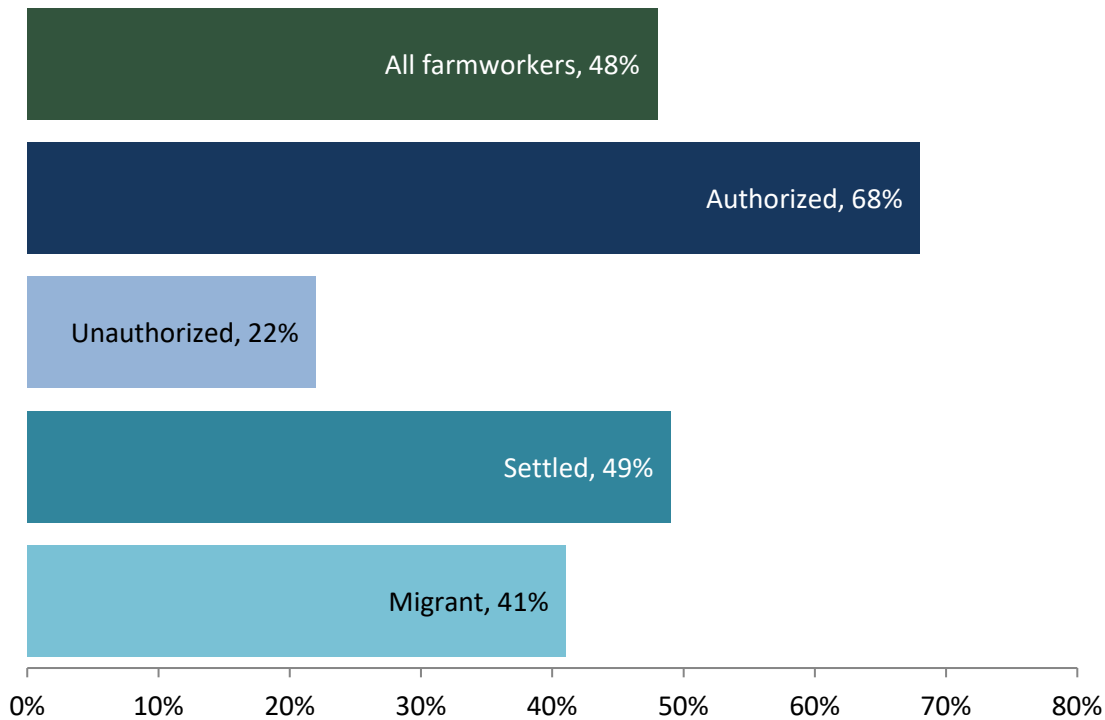
- Forty-eight percent of surveyed farmworkers reported having health insurance and 56 percent said their spouse had health insurance.
- Eighty-eight percent of farmworkers said all of their children had health insurance, and 3 percent⁶⁰ said only some of their children had health insurance.
- The top providers of farmworker's health insurance were government program (39%) and their employer (26%).

Health Insurance Coverage for Farmworkers and Family Members

The NAWS had several questions about health insurance. One question asked workers to indicate who in their family had health insurance in the United States. Forty-eight percent of workers responded that they, themselves, had health insurance. Authorized workers and settled workers were much more likely to report having health insurance (68% and 49% respectively) than unauthorized workers and migrant workers (22% and 41% respectively). See Figure 9.1.

⁶⁰ Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

Figure 9.1: Percent of Farmworkers with Health Insurance, 2019–2020

Half of farmworkers had health insurance.

Farmworkers who reported having health insurance were asked to identify their providers (multiple providers could be reported). Thirty-nine percent reported insurance provided by the government, 26 percent said their employer provided them with health insurance, 13 percent said they or their spouse paid for insurance themselves, 12 percent said they were covered by their parents' or family's plan, 7 percent said they had insurance under their spouse's employer's plan, and 7 percent indicated some other insurance source⁶¹ (Figure 9.2).

⁶¹ "Other" sources included the Affordable Care Act, private health insurance companies (e.g., Aetna, Blue Cross), charity, and retirement/pension plans.

Figure 9.2: Sources of Farmworkers' Health Insurance, 2019–2020

Source of Farmworker's Health Insurance ^{a,b}	Percent of Farmworkers
Government program	39%
Farmworker's employer	26%
Farmworker's/Spouse's self-purchased plan	13%
Parent's/Family's plan	12%
Spouse's employer	7%
Other	7%

^a Among the 48 percent of farmworkers who reported having health insurance.

^b Farmworkers might have health insurance through more than one source.

Of the 58 percent of farmworkers who had a spouse, 56 percent reported that their spouse had health insurance. Among spouses with health insurance, 43 percent received their health insurance through a government program, 27 percent were insured through the spouse's employer, 14 percent were covered by the farmworker's employer plan, 12 percent were covered by a self-purchased plan, and 7 percent indicated some other source (Figure 9.3). Authorized workers reported that their spouses had health insurance twice as frequently as unauthorized workers (74% and 37% respectively).

Figure 9.3: Sources of Farmworkers' Spouses' Health Insurance, 2019–2020

Source of Spouse's Health Insurance ^{a,b}	Percent of Farmworkers
Government program	43%
Spouse's employer	27%
Farmworker's employer	14%
Farmworker's/Spouse's self-purchased plan	12%
Other	7%

^a Among the 58 percent of farmworkers who reported that their spouse had health insurance.

^b Spouses may have health insurance through more than one source.

Among the 41 percent of farmworkers with minor children, most reported that all of their children had health insurance (88%) while 3 percent⁶² reported that only some of their children had health insurance. Most of these workers said their children's health insurance was provided by government programs (84%). Twelve percent reported that their children were insured through their employer or their spouse's employer, and 4 percent⁶³ said their children were covered by insurance that the farmworker and/or their spouse purchased on their own (Figure 9.4). Fewer authorized workers reported that all or some of their children had health insurance than unauthorized workers (88% and 95% respectively).

⁶² Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

⁶³ Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

Figure 9.4: Sources of Farmworkers' Children's Health Insurance, 2019–2020

Source of Children's Health Insurance ^{a,b}	Percent of Farmworkers
Government program	84%
Farmworker's/Spouse's employer	12%
Farmworker's/Spouse's self-purchased plan	4% ⁶⁴
Other	2%

^a Among the 91 percent of farmworkers who reported that all or some of their children had health insurance.

^b Children may have health insurance through more than one source.

⁶⁴ Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

APPENDIX A: Methodology

Overview

The NAWS data come from a nationally representative, random sample of crop farmworkers. During 2019-2020, the NAWS used stratified, multi-stage sampling to account for seasonal and regional fluctuations in the level of farm employment. The stratification included three interviewing cycles per year and 12 geographic regions, resulting in 36 time-by-space strata. For each interviewing cycle, NAWS staff drew a random sample of locations for each of the 12 regions. Together, the 12 regions have a universe of 928 Farm Labor Areas (FLA). FLAs were single- or multi-county sampling units that form the survey's primary sampling units (PSUs). Counties were the secondary level sampling units, ZIP Code regions were the third, agricultural employers were the fourth, and workers were the fifth.

Stratification

Interviewing Cycles

To account for industry seasonality, interviews were conducted 3 times each year in cycles lasting 4 months. The cycles started in February, June, and October. The number of interviews conducted in each cycle was proportional to the number of agricultural field workers employed at that time of the year. The USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) provided the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) with the agricultural employment figures for workers hired by agricultural producers, which came from the USDA's Farm Labor Survey (FLS). Figures for workers employed by farm labor contractors were obtained from the BLS Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW).

Regions

Regional stratification entailed defining 12 distinct agricultural regions based on the USDA's 17 agricultural regions. At the start of the survey in 1988, the 17 regions were collapsed into 12 by combining those regions that were most similar based on statistical analysis of cropping patterns. In each cycle, all 12 agricultural regions were included in the sample. The number of interviews per region was proportional to the size of the seasonal farm labor force in that region at that time of the year, as determined by the NASS and the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) using information obtained from the Farm Labor Survey and QCEW.

Sampling within Strata

Farm Labor Areas (FLAs)

Each region was composed of several single- or multi-county sampling units called FLAs. There were 928 FLAs that form a universe from which sampling locations were selected. FLAs are aggregates of counties roughly similar in size with similar farm labor usage. FLA size is more homogeneous within region than across regions.

The FLA size measure is an estimate of the amount of farm labor in the FLA during a cycle. In this case, the measure was based on the hired and contract labor expenses from the most recent Census of Agriculture (CoA) available at the time the sample was drawn. The CoA labor expenses were adjusted using seasonality estimates that identified the percentage of labor

expenses that fell into each of the NAWS cycles—fall, spring and summer. The seasonality estimates were based on monthly data from the QCEW and were constructed by aggregating the reported monthly employment for each month included in the corresponding NAWS cycle (e.g., June, July, August, and September for the summer cycle). The share of employment corresponding to each cycle became an FLA’s seasonality estimate.

FLAs were selected in two stages. In the first stage, a roster of approximately 15 FLAs per cycle and region stratum was selected. In the second stage, all FLAs on each stratum roster were randomly sorted.

Counties

Selecting counties within FLAs was done using an iterative sampling procedure to ensure that an adequate number of counties was selected for each region. In most cases, interviews were completed in the first county within each FLA, and no additional counties were needed. However, because there was tremendous uncertainty about the number of workers in a county, additional counties were occasionally needed to complete the county allocation. Counties were selected one at a time, without replacement, using probabilities proportional to the size of each county’s farm labor expenditures. Interviews began in the first selected county. If the work force within the county was depleted before all the allocated interviews in the FLA were completed, interviewing moved to the second randomly selected county on the list, and so forth, until all allocated interviews were completed. In FLAs where farm work was sparse, interviewers might have had to travel to several counties to encounter sufficient workers to complete the FLA allocation.

ZIP Code Regions

Prior to generating lists of employers, sampled counties were divided into ZIP Code regions, which were smaller areas based on geographic proximity. A small county might be a single ZIP code region while a large county might have multiple regions. In a county with multiple ZIP Code regions, the regions were designed to be roughly equal in size.

Where there were multiple ZIP Code regions in a county, the regions were randomly sorted to produce a list that determined the order in which the areas would be visited. Field staff contacted agricultural employers in the first ZIP Code region on the list and moved down the list, following the random order, until the interview allocation for the FLA was filled or the county’s workforce was exhausted.

Employers

Within each selected ZIP Code region, interviewers received a list of randomly sorted agricultural employers. The list was compiled from marketing and administrative lists of employers in crop agriculture. An important component of the list was employer names in selected North American Industrial Classification Codes that the BLS provided directly to the contractor per the terms of an interagency agreement between the ETA and the BLS.

Workers

Once the randomly selected employer was located, the NAWS interviewer explained the purpose of the survey and obtained access to the work site to schedule interviews. If the employer was not familiar with his or her work force, the interviewer sought the name of the manager, personnel

manager, farm labor contractor, or crew leader who could help construct a sampling frame of the workers in the operation. Interviewers documented the number of workers employed on the day of worker selection to construct worker selection probabilities.

When the number of workers available for interview was greater than the number of interviews allocated, the selection of workers for interview followed specific sampling instructions designed by a sampling statistician to ensure selection of a random sample of workers at each selected employer. Only workers employed in agriculture at the time of the interview were included in the sample. Selected workers were usually interviewed at the worksite, either before or after work or during breaks. Respondents might have also been interviewed at another location if that was more convenient for them. Respondents received a 20-dollar honorarium for participating in the survey.

Weighting

The NAWS used a variety of weighting factors to construct weights for calculating unbiased population estimates.

- Sampling weights were calculated based on each sample member's probability of selection at the FLA, county, ZIP Code region, employer, and worker levels.
- Non-response factors were used to correct sampling weights for deviations from the sampling plan, such as discrepancies in the number of interviews planned and collected in specific locations.
- Post-sampling adjustment factors were used to adjust the weights given to each interview to compute unbiased population estimates from the sample data.

A full explanation of how the weights were calculated can be found in the *Statistical Methods of the National Agricultural Workers Survey* available at the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration's National Agricultural Workers Survey website (https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/ETA/naws/pdfs/NAWS_Statistical_Methods_AKA_Supporting_Statement_Part_B.pdf).

Reliability of Estimates

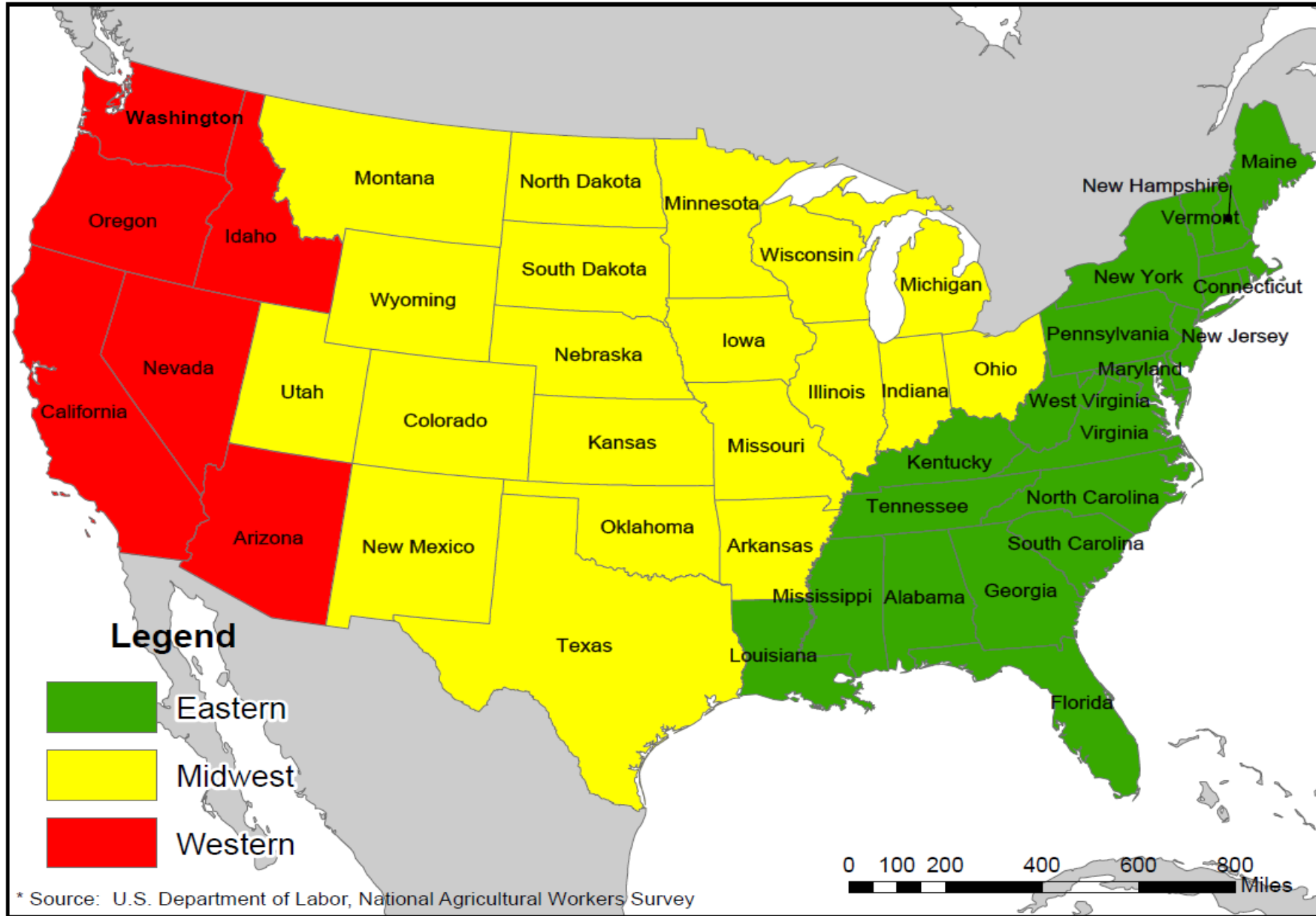
One measure of sampling error is the relative standard error (RSE), a measure of relative dispersion of the data. The RSE is calculated by dividing the standard error of the estimate (mean or percentage) by the estimate itself and reporting the result as a percentage. Higher RSE's indicate that the estimate of the mean might not represent the true mean of the distribution of responses.⁶⁵

For reporting data, the NAWS has adopted the following data suppression rules.

- Estimates with RSEs greater than 30 percent but no more than 50 percent are published but should be used with caution.
- Estimates with RSEs greater than 50 percent are considered statistically unreliable and are suppressed.

⁶⁵ Sommer, J. E., Green, R., and Korb, P (1998). *Structural and Financial Characteristics of U.S. Farms, 1995: 20th Annual Family Farm Report to Congress* (https://www.ers.usda.gov/webdocs/publications/42178/32556_aib746_002.pdf?v=42487). Agriculture Information Bulletin No. (AIB-746), 118 pp, December 1998 (p. 62).

APPENDIX B: Map of the NAWS Migrant Streams



APPENDIX C: Index of Percentages and Means for Key Variables

The following tables list the names, descriptions, and categories of the key variables analyzed for this report, as well as the estimates (percentages or means) reported and the 95-percent confidence limits, standard errors, and relative standard errors (RSEs) of the estimates. Estimates with RSEs greater than 30 percent are identified throughout the tables. The RSE is calculated by dividing the standard error of the estimate by the estimate itself. Estimates with RSEs greater than 30 percent but no more than 50 percent are published but should be used with caution; these are identified with a superscript ‘a.’ Estimates based on fewer than 4 observations or with RSEs greater than 50 percent are considered statistically unreliable and are suppressed from the tables. Suppressed statistics are indicated with a ‘b.’

Chapter 1

Variable	Variable Description	Variable Level(s)	Number of Observations	Estimate (Percentage or Mean)	Standard Error	95% Lower Confidence Limit	95% Upper Confidence Limit	Relative Standard Error
A07	Country of birth	US or Puerto Rico	572	30%	2.9%	24%	36%	10%
A07	Country of birth	Mexico	1,467	63%	2.6%	58%	69%	4%
A07	Country of birth	Central America	115	5%	1.5%	2%	8%	28%
A07	Country of birth	Other (South America, Caribbean, South East Asia, Pacific Islands, Asia)	18	b	b	b	b	59%
HISP	Hispanic	Hispanic	1,771	78%	2.4%	74%	83%	3%
B01	Hispanic category	Mexican American	240	10%	1.5%	7%	13%	15%
B01	Hispanic category	Mexican	1,359	60%	2.4%	55%	65%	4%
B01	Hispanic category	Chicano, Puerto Rican, or other Hispanic	172	8%	1.6%	5%	12%	19%
B01	Hispanic category	Not Hispanic or Latino	400	22%	2.4%	17%	26%	11%
B02	Race	White	654	33%	2.4%	28%	38%	7%
B02	Race	Black/African American	30	<1% ^a	0.2%	<1%	<1%	35%
B02	Race	American Indian/Alaska Native	4	b	b	b	b	50%
B02	Race	Other	1,481	66%	2.4%	62%	71%	4%
B02	Race	Refused to answer	1	b	b	b	b	97%
INDIGENOUS	Farmworker is indigenous	Farmworker is indigenous	165	10%	1.7%	6%	13%	17%

Appendix C: Index of Percentages and Means for Key Variables

Variable	Variable Description	Variable Level(s)	Number of Observations	Estimate (Percentage or Mean)	Standard Error	95% Lower Confidence Limit	95% Upper Confidence Limit	Relative Standard Error
USSTAY	Years in US	Average	1,598	21	0.57	19	22	3%
USSTAY	Years in US	Less than 1 year (newcomer)	8	1% ^a	0.2%	<1%	1%	39%
USSTAY	Years in US	1-4 years	117	9%	1.3%	6%	12%	15%
USSTAY	Years in US	5-9 years	93	6%	0.8%	4%	7%	15%
USSTAY	Years in US	10-14 years	217	14%	1.7%	11%	18%	12%
USSTAY	Years in US	15-19 years	284	19%	1.4%	17%	22%	7%
USSTAY	Years in US	20-29 years	428	30%	2.1%	25%	34%	7%
USSTAY	Years in US	30-39 years	301	14%	1.3%	11%	16%	9%
USSTAY	Years in US	40+ years	150	8%	1.1%	6%	10%	13%
B18 (by A07)	State of birth (by country of birth)	Baja California (among country of birth is Mexico)	50	6%	1.3%	3%	8%	23%
B18 (by A07)	State of birth (by country of birth)	Guanajuato (among country of birth is Mexico)	199	11%	1.5%	8%	14%	13%
B18 (by A07)	State of birth (by country of birth)	Guerrero (among country of birth is Mexico)	88	6%	1.0%	4%	8%	19%
B18 (by A07)	State of birth (by country of birth)	Jalisco (among country of birth is Mexico)	131	9%	1.6%	6%	12%	17%
B18 (by A07)	State of birth (by country of birth)	Michoacán (among country of birth is Mexico)	330	20%	1.9%	16%	24%	9%
B18 (by A07)	State of birth (by country of birth)	Oaxaca (among country of birth is Mexico)	179	14%	2.3%	10%	19%	16%
CURRSTAT	Current work authorization	Citizen	704	36%	3.2%	29%	42%	9%
CURRSTAT	Current work authorization	Lawful permanent resident	467	19%	2.1%	15%	23%	11%
CURRSTAT	Current work authorization	Other work authorized	33	1%	0.3%	<1%	2%	28%
CURRSTAT	Current work authorization	Unauthorized	935	44%	4.1%	36%	52%	9%
MIGRANT	Migrant	Migrant	319	15%	1.9%	11%	19%	13%

Chapter 2

Variable	Variable Description	Variable Level(s)	Number of Observations	Estimate (Percentage or Mean)	Standard Error	95% Lower Confidence Limit	95% Upper Confidence Limit	Relative Standard Error
GENDER	Gender	Male	1,574	66%	3.0%	60%	72%	4%
GENDER	Gender	Female	598	34%	3.0%	28%	40%	9%
AGE	Age	Average	2,170	41	0.58	39	42	1%
AGE	Age	14-19	83	5%	1.1%	3%	7%	21%
AGE	Age	20-24	171	9%	1.2%	7%	12%	13%
AGE	Age	25-34	458	23%	1.6%	20%	26%	7%
AGE	Age	35-44	549	26%	1.8%	22%	30%	7%
AGE	Age	45-54	459	18%	1.3%	15%	20%	7%
AGE	Age	55-64	345	14%	1.3%	12%	17%	9%
AGE	Age	65 and over	105	5%	1.0%	3%	7%	19%
MARRIED, FWPARENT	Farmworker is married, Farmworker is a parent	Married, parent	870	37%	2.2%	33%	42%	6%
MARRIED, FWPARENT	Farmworker is married, Farmworker is a parent	Married, no children	447	19%	1.6%	16%	22%	8%
MARRIED, FWPARENT	Farmworker is married, Farmworker is a parent	Unmarried, parent	232	13%	1.5%	10%	16%	12%
MARRIED, FWPARENT	Farmworker is married, Farmworker is a parent	Unmarried, no children	619	31%	2.1%	27%	35%	7%

Appendix C: Index of Percentages and Means for Key Variables

Variable	Variable Description	Variable Level(s)	Number of Observations	Estimate (Percentage or Mean)	Standard Error	95% Lower Confidence Limit	95% Upper Confidence Limit	Relative Standard Error
HKIDLT18 (by FWPARENT)	Number of children under age 18 in the household (by farmworker is a parent)	Average (among farmworker parents)	867	2	0.1	2	2	3%
HKIDLT18 (by FWPARENT)	Number of children under age 18 in the household (by farmworker is a parent)	1 child (among farmworker parents)	299	32%	3.2%	25%	38%	10%
HKIDLT18 (by FWPARENT)	Number of children under age 18 in the household (by farmworker is a parent)	2 children (among farmworker parents)	306	36%	2.9%	31%	42%	8%
HKIDLT18 (by FWPARENT)	Number of children under age 18 in the household (by farmworker is a parent)	3 children (among farmworker parents)	157	22%	3.0%	16%	28%	14%
HKIDLT18 (by FWPARENT)	Number of children under age 18 in the household (by farmworker is a parent)	4 children (among farmworker parents)	84	7%	1.4%	4%	10%	20%
HKIDLT18 (by FWPARENT)	Number of children under age 18 in the household (by farmworker is a parent)	5 or more children (among farmworker parents)	21	3% ^a	1.0%	1%	5%	35%
ACCOMP	Nuclear family lives in household	Unaccompanied	791	38%	2.0%	34%	42%	5%
ACCOMP	Nuclear family lives in household	Accompanied	1,381	62%	2.0%	58%	66%	3%

Chapter 3

Variable	Variable Description	Variable Level(s)	Number of Observations	Estimate (Percentage or Mean)	Standard Error	95% Lower Confidence Limit	95% Upper Confidence Limit	Relative Standard Error
PRIMLANG18	Adult primary language	English	457	25%	2.4%	20%	30%	10%
PRIMLANG18	Adult primary language	Spanish	1,411	62%	2.5%	57%	67%	4%
PRIMLANG18	Adult primary language	Indigenous	23	1% ^a	0.2%	<1%	1%	33%
PRIMLANG18	Adult primary language	Other	10	1% ^a	0.2%	<1%	1%	40%
PRIMLANG18	Adult primary language	Bilingual Spanish/English	151	6%	0.8%	4%	8%	14%
PRIMLANG18	Adult primary language	More than one language	87	6%	1.5%	3%	9%	27%
HIGHGRDE	Highest grade completed	Average	2,171	9	0.2	8	9	2%
HIGHGRDE	Highest grade completed	No schooling	91	4%	0.7%	2%	5%	20%
HIGHGRDE	Highest grade completed	K-6 th grade	813	35%	2.3%	30%	40%	7%
HIGHGRDE	Highest grade completed	7 th -9 th grade	424	22%	1.6%	19%	25%	7%
HIGHGRDE	Highest grade completed	10 th -12 th grade	603	26%	2.3%	21%	30%	9%
HIGHGRDE	Highest grade completed	13 grades or more	240	14%	1.7%	10%	17%	12%
B07	Ability to speak English	Not at all	577	29%	2.6%	24%	35%	9%
B07	Ability to speak English	A little	640	26%	1.7%	23%	30%	6%
B07	Ability to speak English	Somewhat	296	12%	1.3%	10%	15%	11%
B07	Ability to speak English	Well	657	32%	2.6%	27%	37%	8%
B08	Ability to read English	Not at all	808	40%	2.8%	34%	45%	7%
B08	Ability to read English	A little	497	19%	1.4%	16%	22%	8%
B08	Ability to read English	Somewhat	233	10%	1.2%	7%	12%	13%
B08	Ability to read English	Well	631	31%	2.5%	26%	36%	8%
B22b	Ability to speak Spanish	Somewhat	20	2% ^a	0.7%	1%	4%	36%
B22b	Ability to speak Spanish	Well	1,385	98%	0.7%	96%	99%	1%
B23b	Ability to read Spanish	Not at all	31	2%	0.5%	1%	3%	23%
B23b	Ability to read Spanish	A little	77	6%	0.8%	4%	7%	14%
B23b	Ability to read Spanish	Somewhat	129	8%	1.3%	5%	10%	17%
B23b	Ability to read Spanish	Well	1,167	85%	1.8%	81%	88%	2%

Chapter 4

Variable	Variable Description	Variable Level(s)	Number of Observations	Estimate (Percentage or Mean)	Standard Error	95% Lower Confidence Limit	95% Upper Confidence Limit	Relative Standard Error
D35trend	Location of housing while at current farm job	Off farm, in property not owned by current employer	1,735	83%	1.9%	79%	86%	2%
D35trend	Location of housing while at current farm job	Off farm, in property owned by current employer	58	3%	0.8%	1%	5%	28%
D35trend	Location of housing while at current farm job	On farm of employer I currently work for	321	13%	1.5%	10%	16%	12%
D35trend	Location of housing while at current farm job	Other	26	2% ^a	0.5%	<1%	3%	34%
D33a	Payment arrangement for living quarters	EMPLOYER-PROVIDED: I pay for housing provided by my employer	99	3%	0.5%	2%	5%	16%
D33a	Payment arrangement for living quarters	EMPLOYER-PROVIDED: I receive free housing from my employer	274	11%	1.6%	7%	14%	15%
D33a	Payment arrangement for living quarters	I pay for housing provided by govt, charity, other organization	30	1%	0.3%	1%	2%	25%
D33a	Payment arrangement for living quarters	I (or family member) own the house	690	31%	2.1%	27%	36%	7%
D33a	Payment arrangement for living quarters	I rent from non-employer/non-relative	1,068	53%	2.8%	47%	58%	5%
D33a	Payment arrangement for living quarters	Other	8	1% ^a	0.4%	<1%	2%	49%

Appendix C: Index of Percentages and Means for Key Variables

Variable	Variable Description	Variable Level(s)	Number of Observations	Estimate (Percentage or Mean)	Standard Error	95% Lower Confidence Limit	95% Upper Confidence Limit	Relative Standard Error
D50MTCOD	How much paid for housing per month (coded)	Under \$200	55	6% ^a	2.5%	1%	11%	40%
D50MTCOD	How much paid for housing per month (coded)	\$200-299	99	6%	0.8%	4%	8%	13%
D50MTCOD	How much paid for housing per month (coded)	\$300-399	127	10%	1.2%	7%	12%	12%
D50MTCOD	How much paid for housing per month (coded)	\$400-499	122	13%	2.2%	9%	18%	17%
D50MTCOD	How much paid for housing per month (coded)	\$500-599	161	13%	1.5%	10%	16%	11%
D50MTCOD	How much paid for housing per month (coded)	\$600 or more	584	51%	4.5%	42%	60%	9%
D34trend	Type of housing	Single-family home	1,226	56%	3.1%	50%	62%	5%
D34trend	Type of housing	Mobile home	523	21%	2.0%	17%	25%	9%
D34trend	Type of housing	Apartment	383	20%	2.2%	15%	24%	11%
D34trend	Type of housing	Other (includes duplex or triplex, dormitory or barracks, motel or hotel, and 'other')	35	3% ^a	1.3%	<1%	5%	46%
D54a	Number of bedrooms in current living quarters	Average	2,169	3	0.04	3	3	2%
D54b	Number of bathrooms in current living quarters	Average	2,170	2	0.03	1	2	2%
D54c	Number of kitchens in current living quarters	Average	2,170	1	<1	1	1	0%
D54f	Number of other rooms in current living quarters	Average	2,167	1	0.05	1	1	5%

Appendix C: Index of Percentages and Means for Key Variables

Variable	Variable Description	Variable Level(s)	Number of Observations	Estimate (Percentage or Mean)	Standard Error	95% Lower Confidence Limit	95% Upper Confidence Limit	Relative Standard Error
CROWDED1	Household is crowded, based on US Census Bureau definition of a crowded household as one in which the number of persons per room exceeds one	Crowded	538	30%	2.5%	25%	34%	8%
D37a	Distance of current farm job from current residence	I'm located at the job	314	12%	1.5%	9%	15%	12%
D37a	Distance of current farm job from current residence	Within 9 miles	774	35%	2.4%	30%	39%	7%
D37a	Distance of current farm job from current residence	10-24 miles	763	37%	2.7%	32%	43%	7%
D37a	Distance of current farm job from current residence	25-49 miles	277	14%	1.9%	10%	17%	14%
D37a	Distance of current farm job from current residence	50+ miles	43	3% ^a	0.9%	1%	4%	34%
D37	Mode of transportation to work	Drive car	1,564	73%	1.8%	69%	77%	2%
D37	Mode of transportation to work	Walk	205	9%	1.2%	6%	11%	14%
D37	Mode of transportation to work	Ride with others	167	8%	1.1%	6%	11%	13%
D37	Mode of transportation to work	Labor bus, truck, van	56	2%	0.4%	1%	3%	22%
D37	Mode of transportation to work	Raitero	157	7%	0.9%	5%	9%	14%
D37	Mode of transportation to work	Public transportation, other	21	1% ^a	0.5%	<1%	2%	39%
D38a	Transport is mandatory	Yes	15	4% ^a	1.7%	<1%	7%	42%

Appendix C: Index of Percentages and Means for Key Variables

Variable	Variable Description	Variable Level(s)	Number of Observations	Estimate (Percentage or Mean)	Standard Error	95% Lower Confidence Limit	95% Upper Confidence Limit	Relative Standard Error
D38	Pay a fee for rides to work	No	126	30%	3.0%	24%	36%	10%
D38	Pay a fee for rides to work	Yes, a fee	127	33%	3.7%	26%	41%	11%
D38	Pay a fee for rides to work	Yes, just for gas	133	37%	4.4%	28%	46%	12%

Chapter 5

Variable	Variable Description	Variable Level(s)	Number of Observations	Estimate (Percentage or Mean)	Standard Error	95% Lower Confidence Limit	95% Upper Confidence Limit	Relative Standard Error
FLC	Employer is a farm labor contractor	Employer: Grower, nursery, packing house	1,917	88%	2.8%	83%	94%	3%
FLC	Employer is a farm labor contractor	Employer: Farm labor contractor	255	12%	2.8%	6%	17%	24%
D30	How current job was obtained	Applied for the job on my own	730	32%	2.0%	28%	36%	6%
D30	How current job was obtained	Recruited by a grower/his foreman	129	6%	1.4%	4%	9%	21%
D30	How current job was obtained	Recruited by farm labor contractor/his foreman	28	2% ^a	0.6%	<1%	3%	37%
D30	How current job was obtained	Referred by the employment service, welfare office, labor union, other means	51	3%	0.5%	2%	4%	17%
D30	How current job was obtained	Referred by relative/friend/workmate	1,232	57%	2.9%	51%	62%	5%
CROP	Primary crop at time of interview	Field crops	313	14%	2.1%	10%	18%	14%
CROP	Primary crop at time of interview	Fruits and nuts	869	38%	3.8%	31%	46%	10%
CROP	Primary crop at time of interview	Horticulture	476	24%	4.3%	16%	33%	18%
CROP	Primary crop at time of interview	Vegetables	417	20%	3.1%	14%	26%	15%
CROP	Primary crop at time of interview	Miscellaneous or multiple crops	97	3%	0.7%	2%	5%	22%
TASK	Primary task at time of interview	Pre-harvest	628	28%	2.5%	23%	33%	9%
TASK	Primary task at time of interview	Harvest	475	20%	2.5%	15%	25%	12%
TASK	Primary task at time of interview	Post-harvest	319	21%	2.0%	17%	25%	10%
TASK	Primary task at time of interview	Technical	750	31%	2.7%	26%	37%	9%
D04	Number of hours worked the previous week at current farm job	Average	2,147	46	1.5	43	49	3%

Appendix C: Index of Percentages and Means for Key Variables

Variable	Variable Description	Variable Level(s)	Number of Observations	Estimate (Percentage or Mean)	Standard Error	95% Lower Confidence Limit	95% Upper Confidence Limit	Relative Standard Error
D11	Basis of pay	By the hour	1,825	82%	2.1%	78%	87%	3%
D11	Basis of pay	By the piece	141	7%	1.7%	4%	11%	24%
D11	Basis of pay	Combination hourly wage and piece rate	50	2% ^a	0.8%	1%	4%	36%
D11	Basis of pay	Salary or other	151	8%	1.4%	5%	11%	17%
WAGET1	Hourly wage for primary task	Average	2,111	\$13.59	0.2	13	14	1%
NS01	Employer provides clean drinking water and disposable cups every day	No water, no cups	91	3%	0.7%	1%	4%	26%
NS01	Employer provides clean drinking water and disposable cups every day	Yes, water only	103	5%	1.0%	3%	7%	22%
NS01	Employer provides clean drinking water and disposable cups every day	Yes, water and disposable cups	1,965	92%	1.3%	90%	95%	1%
NS04	Employer provides a toilet every day	Yes	2,146	99%	0.1%	99%	100%	<1%
NS09	Employer provides water to wash hands every day	Yes	2,147	99%	0.2%	99%	100%	<1%
NT02a	Current employer provided training in safe use of pesticides in last 12 months	Yes	1,527	68%	2.8%	63%	74%	4%
D26	Covered by Unemployment Insurance	No	1,059	50%	3.9%	42%	58%	8%
D26	Covered by Unemployment Insurance	Yes	1,029	45%	3.8%	38%	53%	8%
D26	Covered by Unemployment Insurance	Don't know	84	5%	0.8%	3%	6%	18%
D23	Receive workers' compensation if injured at work or get sick as a result of work	No	137	8%	1.5%	5%	11%	19%
D23	Receive workers' compensation if injured at work or get sick as a result of work	Yes	1,767	79%	2.2%	75%	84%	3%

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Variable	Variable Description	Variable Level(s)	Number of Observations	Estimate (Percentage or Mean)	Standard Error	95% Lower Confidence Limit	95% Upper Confidence Limit	Relative Standard Error
D23	Receive workers' compensation if injured at work or get sick as a result of work	Don't know	268	13%	1.8%	9%	16%	14%
D24	Employer provides health insurance or pays for health care for injuries or illness while off the job	No	1,370	61%	2.4%	56%	66%	4%
D24	Employer provides health insurance or pays for health care for injuries or illness while off the job	Yes	605	28%	2.6%	23%	33%	9%
D24	Employer provides health insurance or pays for health care for injuries or illness while off the job	Don't know	196	11%	1.7%	8%	14%	16%

Chapter 6

Variable	Variable Description	Variable Level(s)	Number of Observations	Estimate (Percentage or Mean)	Standard Error	95% Lower Confidence Limit	95% Upper Confidence Limit	Relative Standard Error
NUMFEMPL	Number of farm employers in previous 12 months	Average	2,172	1	0.03	1	1	2%
NUMFEMPL	Number of farm employers in previous 12 months	1 employer	1,840	83%	1.7%	80%	87%	2%
NUMFEMPL	Number of farm employers in previous 12 months	2 employers	228	11%	1.5%	8%	14%	14%
NUMFEMPL	Number of farm employers in previous 12 months	3 or more employers	104	6%	0.7%	4%	7%	12%
D27	Number of years with current employer	Average	2,140	8	0.4	7	9	5%
D27	Number of years with current employer	1 year or less	286	18%	1.6%	15%	21%	9%
D27	Number of years with current employer	2-4 years	659	31%	2.1%	27%	35%	7%
D27	Number of years with current employer	5-10 years	538	24%	1.5%	21%	27%	6%
D27	Number of years with current employer	11-20 years	420	17%	1.4%	15%	20%	8%
D27	Number of years with current employer	21 or more years	237	9%	1.2%	7%	12%	12%
FWWEEKS	Number of weeks of farm work the previous year	Average	2,172	39	1.1	37	41	3%
C10	Number of work days per week	Average	2,171	4	0.1	4	5	3%
FWRDAYS	Number of farm work days the previous year	Average	2,171	227	6.8	214	241	3%

Appendix C: Index of Percentages and Means for Key Variables

Variable	Variable Description	Variable Level(s)	Number of Observations	Estimate (Percentage or Mean)	Standard Error	95% Lower Confidence Limit	95% Upper Confidence Limit	Relative Standard Error
NUMYRSFW (by NEWFWKR)	Number of years since first did farm work (by new farmworker: less than 1 year, 1 year, more than 1 year)	Average (among one or more years of farm work)	2,101	18	0.6	17	19	3%
NUMYRSFW (by NEWFWKR)	Number of years since first did farm work (by new farmworker: less than 1 year, 1 year, more than 1 year)	1 year (among one or more years of farm work)	109	7%	0.9%	5%	9%	14%
NUMYRSFW (by NEWFWKR)	Number of years since first did farm work (by new farmworker: less than 1 year, 1 year, more than 1 year)	2-4 years (among one or more years of farm work)	202	10%	1.2%	8%	12%	12%
NUMYRSFW (by NEWFWKR)	Number of years since first did farm work (by new farmworker: less than 1 year, 1 year, more than 1 year)	5-10 years (among one or more years of farm work)	341	15%	1.8%	12%	19%	12%
NUMYRSFW (by NEWFWKR)	Number of years since first did farm work (by new farmworker: less than 1 year, 1 year, more than 1 year)	11-20 years (among one or more years of farm work)	626	32%	2.7%	27%	37%	9%
NUMYRSFW (by NEWFWKR)	Number of years since first did farm work (by new farmworker: less than 1 year, 1 year, more than 1 year)	21-30 years (among one or more years of farm work)	376	18%	1.4%	15%	20%	8%
NUMYRSFW (by NEWFWKR)	Number of years since first did farm work (by new farmworker: less than 1 year, 1 year, more than 1 year)	31 or more years (among one or more years of farm work)	447	18%	1.6%	15%	21%	8%

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Variable	Variable Description	Variable Level(s)	Number of Observations	Estimate (Percentage or Mean)	Standard Error	95% Lower Confidence Limit	95% Upper Confidence Limit	Relative Standard Error
B12	Number of years of non-crop work in the US	None	1,063	50%	2.4%	45%	55%	5%
B12	Number of years of non-crop work in the US	1 year	219	10%	1.3%	7%	13%	13%
B12	Number of years of non-crop work in the US	2-10 years	593	29%	1.7%	25%	32%	6%
B12	Number of years of non-crop work in the US	11 or more years	199	11%	1.3%	8%	13%	12%
B12	Number of years of non-crop work in the US	Average, among those with at least 1 year on non-crop work in the US	1,011	8	0.6	7	9	7%
B13	Last time parents did hired farm work in the US	Never	1,103	54%	2.1%	49%	58%	4%
B13	Last time parents did hired farm work in the US	Now/within the last year	294	12%	1.3%	9%	15%	11%
B13	Last time parents did hired farm work in the US	1-5 years ago	62	3%	0.5%	1%	4%	21%
B13	Last time parents did hired farm work in the US	6-10 years ago	55	3%	0.8%	2%	5%	22%
B13	Last time parents did hired farm work in the US	11 or more years ago	640	27%	1.5%	24%	30%	6%
B13	Last time parents did hired farm work in the US	Don't know	17	1%	0.4%	1%	2%	29%

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Variable	Variable Description	Variable Level(s)	Number of Observations	Estimate (Percentage or Mean)	Standard Error	95% Lower Confidence Limit	95% Upper Confidence Limit	Relative Standard Error
E02	How long expect to continue doing farm work	Less than one year	63	4%	0.8%	2%	5%	22%
E02	How long expect to continue doing farm work	1-3 years	229	11%	1.3%	8%	14%	12%
E02	How long expect to continue doing farm work	4-5 years	105	5%	0.8%	3%	6%	16%
E02	How long expect to continue doing farm work	Over 5 years	57	3%	0.9%	1%	5%	30%
E02	How long expect to continue doing farm work	Over 5 years/as long as I am able	1,685	76%	2.2%	72%	80%	3%
E02	How long expect to continue doing farm work	Other	15	b	b	b	b	63%

Chapter 7

Variable	Variable Description	Variable Level(s)	Number of Observations	Estimate (Percentage or Mean)	Standard Error	95% Lower Confidence Limit	95% Upper Confidence Limit	Relative Standard Error
NWEEKS	Number of weeks living in the US but not working the previous year	Average	2,172	8	0.6	6	9	8%
ABWEEKS	Number of weeks abroad the previous year	Average	2,172	2	0.5	1	3	26%
NFWEEKS	Number of weeks of non-crop work the previous year	NFWEEKS>0	422	22%	2.1%	18%	27%	10%
NFWEEKS	Number of weeks of non-crop work the previous year	Average, among those with NFWEEKS>0	422	24	1.4	22	27	6%
NUMNFJOBS	Number of non-crop jobs the previous year	Average, among those with NFWEEKS>0	422	2	0.1	1	2	3%
HasNFLeave (by NFWEEKS)	Left at least one non-crop employer in the previous year (by number of weeks of non-crop work the previous year)	Left at least one non-crop employer in the previous year (among NFWEEKS>0)	191	53%	4.5%	44%	62%	8%
NFleaves (by HasNFLeave)	Type of leave from non-crop work (by left at least one non-crop employer in the previous year)	All leaves from non-crop work were involuntary (among left at least one non-crop employer in the previous year)	58	30%	3.3%	23%	36%	11%
NFleaves (by HasNFLeave)	Type of leave from non-crop work (by left at least one non-crop employer in the previous year)	All leaves from non-crop work were voluntary (among left at least one non-crop employer in the previous year)	129	69%	3.5%	61%	76%	5%
NFleaves (by HasNFLeave)	Type of leave from non-crop work (by left at least one non-crop employer in the previous year)	Both voluntary and involuntary leaves from non-crop work (among left at least one non-crop employer in the previous year)	4	2% ^a	0.8%	<1%	4%	46%
HadNW	Had at least one period of not working in previous year	Yes	1,449	66%	2.8%	60%	71%	4%

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Variable	Variable Description	Variable Level(s)	Number of Observations	Estimate (Percentage or Mean)	Standard Error	95% Lower Confidence Limit	95% Upper Confidence Limit	Relative Standard Error
WeeksNotWorking	Number of weeks not working in previous year	Average, among those who had at least one period of not working in previous year	1,449	15	1.0	13	17	7%
RecvdUI	Received unemployment during at least one period of not working	Yes (among those who had at least one period of not working in previous year)	199	14%	2.9%	8%	19%	21%

Chapter 8

Variable	Variable Description	Variable Level(s)	Number of Observations	Estimate (Percentage or Mean)	Standard Error	95% Lower Confidence Limit	95% Upper Confidence Limit	Relative Standard Error
G01	Total personal income the previous year	Average	2,021	11 (\$20,000 to \$24,999)	0.2	11 (\$20,000 to \$24,999)	12 (\$25,000 to \$29,999)	2%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	Median	2,021	11 (\$20,000 to \$24,999)	0.2	11 (\$20,000 to \$24,999)	12 (\$25,000 to \$29,999)	2%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	Did not work at all the previous year	57	5%	0.9%	3%	6%	20%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	\$500-\$999	4	b	b	b	b	69%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	\$1,000-\$2,499	13	1% ^a	0.5%	<1%	2%	46%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	\$2,500-\$4,999	31	2%	0.7%	1%	4%	30%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	\$5,000-\$7,499	36	2%	0.3%	1%	2%	22%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	\$7,500-\$9,999	47	3%	1.0%	1%	5%	30%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	\$10,000-\$12,499	74	5%	1.0%	3%	7%	23%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	\$12,500-\$14,999	84	4%	0.6%	3%	5%	16%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	\$15,000-\$17,499	111	4%	0.6%	3%	5%	14%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	\$17,500-\$19,999	149	7%	1.0%	5%	9%	13%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	\$20,000-\$24,999	364	15%	1.2%	12%	17%	8%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	\$25,000-\$29,999	333	16%	1.9%	12%	19%	12%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	\$30,000-\$34,999	270	12%	1.5%	9%	15%	12%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	\$35,000-\$39,999	200	8%	0.9%	7%	10%	10%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	Over \$40,000	305	11%	1.3%	9%	14%	12%

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Variable	Variable Description	Variable Level(s)	Number of Observations	Estimate (Percentage or Mean)	Standard Error	95% Lower Confidence Limit	95% Upper Confidence Limit	Relative Standard Error
G01	Total personal income the previous year	Don't remember (don't know)	75	4%	0.8%	2%	6%	21%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	Refused to answer	16	1% ^a	0.3%	<1%	1%	39%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	Average	2,016	12 (\$25,000 to \$29,999)	0.2	12 (\$25,000 to \$29,999)	13 (\$30,000 to \$34,999)	2%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	Median	2,016	12 (\$25,000 to \$29,999)	0.3	12 (\$25,000 to \$29,999)	13 (\$30,000 to \$34,999)	2%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	Did not work at all the previous year	42	3%	0.7%	2%	4%	23%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	\$1,000-\$2,499	13	1% ^a	0.4%	<1%	2%	38%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	\$2,500-\$4,999	24	2% ^a	0.6%	1%	3%	34%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	\$5,000-\$7,499	25	1%	0.3%	<1%	2%	27%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	\$7,500-\$9,999	29	2% ^a	0.9%	1%	4%	37%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	\$10,000-\$12,499	44	4%	1.0%	1%	6%	29%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	\$12,500-\$14,999	48	2%	0.5%	1%	3%	21%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	\$15,000-\$17,499	58	3%	0.5%	2%	3%	18%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	\$17,500-\$19,999	98	5%	0.7%	3%	6%	16%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	\$20,000-\$24,999	263	11%	1.2%	9%	14%	11%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	\$25,000-\$29,999	242	11%	1.2%	9%	13%	11%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	\$30,000-\$34,999	244	9%	0.9%	8%	11%	9%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	\$35,000-\$39,999	208	8%	0.8%	6%	9%	10%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	Over \$40,000	720	32%	2.6%	27%	38%	8%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	Refused to answer	17	1% ^a	0.3%	<1%	1%	37%

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Variable	Variable Description	Variable Level(s)	Number of Observations	Estimate (Percentage or Mean)	Standard Error	95% Lower Confidence Limit	95% Upper Confidence Limit	Relative Standard Error
G03	Family's total income the previous year	Don't remember (don't know)	93	5%	0.9%	3%	6%	18%
FAMPOV	Family income below the poverty level	Below poverty level	343	20%	2.4%	15%	25%	12%
ASSETUS	Assets in US	Any US asset	1,749	81%	1.9%	77%	85%	2%
G06a	Type of US asset	Plot of land	89	4%	0.7%	3%	6%	17%
G06d	Type of US asset	Car or truck	1,712	80%	1.9%	76%	84%	2%
G06h	Type of US asset	A type of housing, such as a house, mobile home, condominium, or apartment	511	22%	1.7%	19%	26%	8%
G04c	Type of contribution-based program household member utilized in the last 2 years	Disability insurance	38	1%	0.4%	1%	2%	26%
G04d	Type of contribution-based program household member utilized in the last 2 years	Unemployment Insurance	200	8%	1.7%	5%	12%	20%
G04e	Type of contribution-based program household member utilized in the last 2 years	Social Security	61	4%	0.9%	2%	6%	24%
G04b	Type of need-based program household member utilized in the last 2 years	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	265	13%	1.6%	10%	16%	12%
G04i	Type of need-based program household member utilized in the last 2 years	Public health clinics	640	33%	2.5%	28%	38%	8%
G04j	Type of need-based program household member utilized in the last 2 years	Medicaid	950	44%	2.3%	40%	49%	5%
G04k	Type of need-based program household member utilized in the last 2 years	WIC	244	9%	1.0%	8%	11%	10%
G04r	Type of need-based program household member utilized in the last 2 years	Welfare (general assistance) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	23	2% ^a	0.6%	1%	3%	35%

Chapter 9

Variable	Variable Description	Variable Level(s)	Number of Observations	Estimate (Percentage or Mean)	Standard Error	95% Lower Confidence Limit	95% Upper Confidence Limit	Relative Standard Error
A21a	Farmworker has health insurance	Yes	1,058	48%	2.2%	44%	52%	5%
A23a1	Who pays for farmworker's health insurance	Farmworker	120	12%	2.0%	8%	16%	17%
A23a2	Who pays for farmworker's health insurance	Farmworker's spouse	8	<1% ^a	0.2%	<1%	1%	31%
A23a3	Who pays for farmworker's health insurance	Farmworker's employer	324	26%	3.0%	20%	32%	12%
A23a4	Who pays for farmworker's health insurance	Farmworker's spouse's employer	70	7%	1.5%	4%	10%	23%
A23a5	Who pays for farmworker's health insurance	Government	408	39%	3.7%	31%	46%	10%
A23a6	Who pays for farmworker's health insurance	Other	92	7%	1.4%	4%	10%	20%
A23a7	Who pays for farmworker's health insurance	Farmworker's parents'/family's plan	69	12%	2.5%	7%	17%	21%
A21b	Spouse has health insurance	Yes	1,361	58%	2.2%	54%	63%	4%
A23b1	Who pays for spouse's insurance	Farmworker	62	9%	2.4%	4%	14%	27%
A23b2	Who pays for spouse's insurance	Farmworker's spouse	23	3%	1.0%	1%	5%	30%
A23b3	Who pays for spouse's insurance	Farmworker's employer	126	14%	2.5%	9%	19%	18%
A23b4	Who pays for spouse's insurance	Farmworker's spouse's employer	142	27%	3.5%	20%	34%	13%
A23b5	Who pays for spouse's insurance	Government	318	43%	3.7%	36%	51%	9%
A23b6	Who pays for spouse's insurance	Other	66	7%	1.3%	4%	9%	19%

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Variable	Variable Description	Variable Level(s)	Number of Observations	Estimate (Percentage or Mean)	Standard Error	95% Lower Confidence Limit	95% Upper Confidence Limit	Relative Standard Error
A21c2	Children have health insurance	Yes, all have it (among those who have minor children in the U.S. or Puerto Rico)	797	88%	3.3%	82%	95%	4%
A21c2	Children have health insurance	Yes, only some have it (among those who have minor children in the U.S. or Puerto Rico)	29	3% ^a	1.1%	1%	5%	33%
A23c1	Who pays for children's insurance	Farmworker	31	3% ^a	1.1%	1%	5%	34%
A23c2	Who pays for children's insurance	Farmworker's spouse	7	b	b	b	b	52%
A23c3	Who pays for children's insurance	Farmworker's employer	41	3%	0.8%	1%	4%	27%
A23c4	Who pays for children's insurance	Farmworker's spouse's employer	75	10%	2.4%	5%	14%	25%
A23c5	Who pays for children's insurance	Government	672	84%	2.8%	78%	89%	3%
A23c6	Who pays for children's insurance	Other	21	2%	0.3%	<1%	2%	19%

APPENDIX D: Data on National Demographic and Employment Characteristics since 1989

Table 1: Farmworker Demographics, National Estimates, Eight Time Periods*

Characteristic	Fiscal Years 1989-1991	Fiscal Years 1998-2000	Fiscal Years 2007-2009	Fiscal Years 2010-2012	Fiscal Years 2013-2014	Fiscal Years 2015-2016	Fiscal Years 2017-2018	Fiscal Years 2019-2020
U.S.-born	40%	17%	29%	26%	27%	25%	32%	30%
Foreign-born	60%	83%	71%	74%	73%	75%	68%	70%
Authorized	86%	46%	52%	50%	53%	51%	64%	56%
Unauthorized	14%	54%	48%	50%	47%	49%	36%	44%
Place of birth: United States/Puerto Rico	40%	17%	29%	26%	27%	25%	32%	30%
Place of birth: Mexico	54%	79%	68%	67%	68%	69%	64%	63%
Place of birth: Central America	2%	2%	3%	6%	4%	6%	3%	5%
Place of birth: Other	3%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1% ^(a)	^(b)
Current work authorization: U.S. citizen (by birth or naturalization)	43%	20%	33%	29%	31%	29%	38%	36%
Current work authorization: Lawful permanent resident (green card)	13%	25%	18%	19%	21%	21%	24%	19%
Current work authorization: Other work authorized	29%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%
Current work authorization: Unauthorized	14%	54%	48%	50%	47%	49%	36%	44%
Migrant type: Settled (did not migrate) ¹	59%	45%	74%	79%	84%	81%	87%	85%
Migrant type: Shuttle migrant ²	23%	22%	12%	14%	10%	10%	8%	11%
Migrant type: Follow-the-crop migrant ³	14%	10%	5%	6%	4%	6%	4%	4%
Migrant type: Foreign-born newcomer ⁴	4%	22%	9%	2%	2%	4%	2%	1%
Male	73%	80%	78%	73%	72%	68%	69%	66%
Average age	33	31	36	37	38	38	41	41

Appendix D: Data on National Demographic and Employment Characteristics

Characteristic	Fiscal Years 1989-1991	Fiscal Years 1998-2000	Fiscal Years 2007-2009	Fiscal Years 2010-2012	Fiscal Years 2013-2014	Fiscal Years 2015-2016	Fiscal Years 2017-2018	Fiscal Years 2019-2020
Age: 14-17	4%	5%	3%	2%	1%	3%	3%	2% ^(a)
Age: 18-19	8%	9%	6%	4%	4%	4%	3%	3%
Age: 20-24	19%	21%	16%	14%	12%	11%	8%	9%
Age: 25-34	32%	31%	26%	27%	27%	26%	21%	23%
Age: 35-44	19%	19%	21%	25%	24%	23%	23%	26%
Age: 45-54	10%	9%	18%	17%	18%	19%	24%	18%
Age: 55-64	6%	4%	8%	9%	11%	11%	14%	14%
Age: 65 or older	1%	1%	2%	2%	3%	4%	4%	5%
Age first worked in U.S. agriculture: Before age 14	no data	8%	8%	7%	6%	6%	5%	8%
Age first worked in U.S. agriculture: At age 14-18	no data	33%	32%	32%	34%	29%	32%	32%
Age first worked in U.S. agriculture: At age 19-21	no data	18%	19%	17%	17%	18%	17%	19%
Age first worked in U.S. agriculture: At age 22-24	no data	12%	11%	10%	12%	12%	11%	11%
Age first worked in U.S. agriculture: At age 25 or older	no data	28%	31%	33%	31%	35%	35%	31%
Average highest grade completed in school	8th	7th	8th	8th	8th	8th	9th	9th
Highest grade completed: No schooling	5%	4%	5%	4%	3%	4%	2%	4%
Highest grade completed: 1st to 3rd	13%	14%	11%	12%	10%	11%	9%	10%
Highest grade completed: 4th to 7th	30%	41%	32%	30%	28%	28%	27%	27%
Highest grade completed: 8th to 11th	26%	27%	24%	23%	26%	26%	24%	27%
Highest grade completed: 12th (high school graduate)	20%	10%	19%	19%	21%	21%	24%	19%
Highest grade completed: 13 or more (college)	6%	4%	9%	12%	11%	10%	12%	14%

Appendix D: Data on National Demographic and Employment Characteristics

Characteristic	Fiscal Years 1989-1991	Fiscal Years 1998-2000	Fiscal Years 2007-2009	Fiscal Years 2010-2012	Fiscal Years 2013-2014	Fiscal Years 2015-2016	Fiscal Years 2017-2018	Fiscal Years 2019-2020
English speaking ability (self-reported): Not at all	35%	48%	35%	30%	27%	30%	23%	29%
English speaking ability (self-reported): A little	32%	27%	27%	31%	32%	32%	28%	26%
English speaking ability (self-reported): Somewhat	9%	7%	8%	9%	11%	9%	13%	12%
English speaking ability (self-reported): Well	23%	18%	30%	30%	31%	29%	36%	32%
English reading ability (self-reported): Not at all	38%	59%	45%	40%	38%	41%	33%	40%
English reading ability (self-reported): A little	18%	21%	20%	24%	23%	24%	21%	19%
English reading ability (self-reported): Somewhat	5%	5%	6%	7%	9%	7%	11%	10%
English reading ability (self-reported): Well	40%	16%	29%	29%	30%	28%	35%	31%
Family composition: Married parent	44%	42%	45%	47%	48%	41%	39%	37%
Family composition: Married, no children	14%	10%	14%	12%	15%	15%	18%	19%
Family composition: Unmarried parent	8%	5%	8%	8%	9%	13%	11%	13%
Family composition: Single, no children	34%	43%	33%	32%	27%	30%	32%	31%
Median personal income range (all income sources)	\$5,000- \$7,499	\$7,500- \$9,999	\$15,000- \$17,499	\$12,500- \$14,999	\$15,000- \$17,499	\$17,500- \$19,999	\$20,000- \$24,999	\$20,000- \$24,999
Average personal income range (all income sources)	\$5,000- \$7,499	\$7,500- \$9,999	\$15,000- \$17,499	\$15,000- \$17,499	\$17,500- \$19,999	\$17,500- \$19,999	\$20,000- \$24,999	\$20,000- \$24,999
Median family income range (all income sources)	\$7,500- \$9,999	\$7,500- \$9,999	\$17,500- \$19,999	\$17,500- \$19,999	\$20,000- \$24,999	\$20,000- \$24,999	\$25,000- \$29,999	\$25,000- \$29,999
Average family income range (all income sources)	\$10,000- \$12,499	\$10,000- \$12,499	\$17,500- \$19,999	\$17,500- \$19,999	\$20,000- \$24,999	\$20,000- \$24,999	\$25,000- \$29,999	\$25,000- \$29,999

Appendix D: Data on National Demographic and Employment Characteristics

Characteristic	Fiscal Years 1989-1991	Fiscal Years 1998-2000	Fiscal Years 2007-2009	Fiscal Years 2010-2012	Fiscal Years 2013-2014	Fiscal Years 2015-2016	Fiscal Years 2017-2018	Fiscal Years 2019-2020
Share of families with below poverty level income	no data	55%	33%	31%	30%	32%	22%	20%
Share of families that received benefits from contribution-based programs ⁵	28%	21%	21%	20%	19%	14%	18%	13%
Share of families that received benefits from need-based programs ⁶	20%	22%	31%	46%	50%	55%	54%	63%
Ethnicity: Mexican-American	10%	5%	6%	7%	9%	9%	11%	10%
Ethnicity: Mexican	53%	81%	65%	65%	65%	65%	61%	60%
Ethnicity: Chicano	1%	1%	<1%(a)	<1%	<1%	1%	1%(a)	<1%(a)
Ethnicity: Puerto Rican	2%	1%	1%(a)	1%(a)	1%(a)	1%(a)	(b)	(b)
Ethnicity: Other Hispanic	4%	2%	4%	7%	5%	8%	4%	7%
Ethnicity: Not Hispanic or Latino	30%	10%	24%	20%	20%	16%	23%	22%
Accompanied (respondent was living with at least one nuclear family member at the time of interview)	60%	37%	52%	57%	61%	60%	62%	62%
Among parents, share accompanied	74%	59%	72%	82%	83%	85%	91%	89%

*Table 1 illustrates weighted data on farmworkers from the Employment and Training Administration's National Agricultural Workers Survey, Public Data, Fiscal Years (FY) 1989-2020.

a Estimates should be interpreted with caution because they have relative standard errors between 31 and 50 percent.

b Estimates are suppressed because they are based on fewer than four observations or have relative standard errors greater than 50 percent.

1 Settled farmworkers are employed at locations that are within 75 miles of each other.

2 Shuttle migrants have a home base where they do not engage in farm work and have one farm work location that is more than 75 miles from the home base. They might hold multiple farm jobs at the farm work location, but those jobs are within 75 miles of each other.

3 Follow-the-crop migrants have at least two farm jobs that are separated by more than 75 miles.

4 Newcomers are foreign-born farmworkers whose first arrival to the United States occurred within the year preceding the interview and whose migration patterns have not yet been established.

5 Contribution-based benefits include programs to which the recipient or their employer contributed such as disability insurance, Unemployment Insurance, or Social Security.

6 Need-based benefits include financial assistance through programs such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), general assistance or welfare, and publicly provided housing or medical and nutritional assistance such as Medicaid, Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

Table 2: Farmworker Employment Characteristics, National Estimates, Eight Time Periods*

Characteristic	Fiscal Years 1989-1991	Fiscal Years 1998-2000	Fiscal Years 2007-2009	Fiscal Years 2010-2012	Fiscal Years 2013-2014	Fiscal Years 2015-2016	Fiscal Years 2017-2018	Fiscal Years 2019-2020
Employment type at current farm job: Directly-hired	84%	73%	88%	88%	85%	80%	89%	88%
Employment type at current farm job: Labor-contracted	16%	27%	12%	12%	15%	20%	11%	12%
Average number of years of U.S. farm work experience	10	8	13	12	14	14	16	17
Years of U.S. farm work experience: 0-1	10%	26%	14%	10%	7%	11%	8%	6%
Years of U.S. farm work experience: 2-4	25%	24%	18%	17%	14%	17%	14%	15%
Years of U.S. farm work experience: 5-10	30%	22%	23%	29%	25%	22%	18%	17%
Years of U.S. farm work experience: 11-20	22%	18%	23%	25%	28%	24%	27%	31%
Years of U.S. farm work experience: 21 or more	13%	10%	22%	20%	25%	25%	33%	31%
Average number of years with current farm employer	5	3	6	6	7	7	8	8
Years with current farm employer: 0-1	37%	44%	27%	25%	23%	26%	22%	18%
Years with current farm employer: 2-4	32%	36%	33%	33%	32%	32%	28%	31%
Years with current farm employer: 5-10	19%	14%	23%	25%	24%	22%	24%	24%
Years with current farm employer: 11-20	9%	5%	12%	13%	15%	14%	16%	17%
Years with current farm employer: 21 or more	3%	1%	5%	4%	6%	6%	10%	9%
Average hourly earnings at current farm job	\$5.15	\$6.52	\$9.14	\$9.38	\$10.20	\$10.61	\$12.32	\$13.59
Paid below the minimum wage at current farm job	8%	6%	2%	4%	2%	3% ^(a)	^(b)	^(b)

Appendix D: Data on National Demographic and Employment Characteristics

Characteristic	Fiscal Years 1989-1991	Fiscal Years 1998-2000	Fiscal Years 2007-2009	Fiscal Years 2010-2012	Fiscal Years 2013-2014	Fiscal Years 2015-2016	Fiscal Years 2017-2018	Fiscal Years 2019-2020
Average number of days worked on a farm last 12 months	159	153	194	187	192	192	198	227
Average number of weeks worked on a farm last 12 months	28	27	35	34	35	33	35	39
Average number of hours worked per week at current farm job	40	41	45	44	44	45	45	46
Number of hours worked per week at current farm job: 1-20	15%	10%	4%	4%	6%	6%	5%	4%
Number of hours worked per week at current farm job: 21-40	43%	43%	36%	42%	42%	36%	37%	39%
Number of hours worked per week at current farm job: 41-50	23%	29%	35%	29%	28%	30%	30%	31%
Number of hours worked per week at current farm job: 51-60	10%	11%	17%	19%	17%	21%	21%	14%
Number of hours worked per week at current farm job: More than 60	8%	6%	8%	6%	7%	7%	6%	11% ^(a)
Average number of days worked per week at current farm job	no data	5	6	5	5	5	4	4
Median number of days worked per week at current farm job	no data	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Number of days worked per week at current farm job: 1-5 days	no data	54%	42%	50%	50%	46%	57%	55%
Number of days worked per week at current farm job: 6-7 days	no data	46%	58%	50%	50%	54%	43%	45%

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Characteristic	Fiscal Years 1989-1991	Fiscal Years 1998-2000	Fiscal Years 2007-2009	Fiscal Years 2010-2012	Fiscal Years 2013-2014	Fiscal Years 2015-2016	Fiscal Years 2017-2018	Fiscal Years 2019-2020
Average number of hours worked per day**	no data	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Number of hours worked per day: 1-6	no data	19%	12%	11%	15%	15%	12%	11%
Number of hours worked per day: 6.1-8	no data	44%	43%	50%	46%	40%	46%	46%
Number of hours worked per day: 8.1-10	no data	28%	35%	30%	31%	37%	34%	33%
Number of hours worked per day: 10.1-14**	no data	8%	10%	9%	9%	8%	8%	9%(a)
Average number of farm employers in the last 12 months	2.14	1.57	1.29	1.29	1.34	1.32	1.29	1.25
Number of farm employers in the last 12 months: 1	52%	65%	81%	81%	79%	80%	81%	83%
Number of farm employers in the last 12 months: 2	21%	21%	13%	13%	13%	13%	12%	11%
Number of farm employers in the last 12 months: 3	10%	8%	4%	4%	5%	4%	4%	4%
Number of farm employers in the last 12 months: 4	6%	3%	2%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%(a)
Number of farm employers in the last 12 months: 5 or more	10%	2%	1%	1%(a)	1%	1%	(b)	1%(a)
Primary crop at current farm job: Field	12%	16%	16%	17%	13%	10%	13%	14%
Primary crop at current farm job: Fruit or nut	28%	37%	35%	34%	41%	32%	41%	38%
Primary crop at current farm job: Horticulture	18%	16%	20%	23%	22%	19%	22%	24%
Primary crop at current farm job: Vegetable	35%	25%	23%	24%	21%	37%	20%	20%
Primary crop at current farm job: Miscellaneous/multiple	6%	6%	5%	3%	3%	3%	4%(a)	3%

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Characteristic	Fiscal Years 1989-1991	Fiscal Years 1998-2000	Fiscal Years 2007-2009	Fiscal Years 2010-2012	Fiscal Years 2013-2014	Fiscal Years 2015-2016	Fiscal Years 2017-2018	Fiscal Years 2019-2020
Primary task at current farm job: Pre-harvest	20%	20%	27%	34%	26%	30%	23%	28%
Primary task at current farm job: Harvest	41%	29%	27%	22%	23%	17%	24%	20%
Primary task at current farm job: Post-harvest	13%	10%	18%	17%	18%	25%	19%	21%
Primary task at current farm job: Technical (e.g., equipment operator)	18%	23%	25%	27%	33%	29%	34%	31%
Primary task at current farm job: Supervisor	1%	(b)	<1%	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	0%
Primary task at current farm job: Other	7%	18%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Current farm employer provides health insurance or pays for health care for a non-work-related injury or illness [D24]: No	no data	79%	72%	70%	78%	71%	59%	61%
Current farm employer provides health insurance or pays for health care for a non-work-related injury or illness [D24]: Yes	no data	7%	18%	19%	14%	18%	32%	28%
Current farm employer provides health insurance or pays for health care for a non-work-related injury or illness [D24]: Don't know	no data	14%	11%	11%	9%	11%	8%	11%
Current farm employer provides health insurance or pays for health care for a work-related injury or illness [D22]: No	38%	22%	10%	14%	13%	9%	4%	12%
Current farm employer provides health insurance or pays for health care for a work-related injury or illness [D22]: Yes	46%	64%	74%	69%	70%	76%	89%	79%
Current farm employer provides health insurance or pays for health care for a work-related injury or illness [D22]: Don't know	16%	14%	16%	17%	18%	14%	8%	9%

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Characteristic	Fiscal Years 1989-1991	Fiscal Years 1998-2000	Fiscal Years 2007-2009	Fiscal Years 2010-2012	Fiscal Years 2013-2014	Fiscal Years 2015-2016	Fiscal Years 2017-2018	Fiscal Years 2019-2020
Workers' Compensation coverage at current farm job [D23]: No	66%	40%	19%	18%	21%	16%	5%	8%
Workers' Compensation coverage at current farm job [D23]: Yes	24%	38%	60%	60%	51%	62%	85%	79%
Workers' Compensation coverage at current farm job [D23]: Don't know	9%	22%	21%	22%	28%	22%	10%	13%
Unemployment Insurance coverage at current farm job: No	38%	55%	49%	53%	50%	52%	41%	50%
Unemployment Insurance coverage at current farm job: Yes	51%	37%	48%	44%	46%	43%	55%	45%
Unemployment Insurance coverage at current farm job: Don't know	10%	8%	3%	3%	3%	5%	4%	5%
Mode of transportation to work: Drive a car	46%	34%	56%	55%	59%	58%	69%	73%
Mode of transportation to work: Walk	7%	8%	8%	8%	7%	7%	6%	9%
Mode of transportation to work: Public transportation (bus, train, etc.)	<1%	1%	(b)	(b)	<1% ^(a)	<1% ^(a)	(b)	(b)
Mode of transportation to work: Labor bus, truck, van	15%	17%	4%	6%	6%	6% ^(a)	4%	2%
Mode of transportation to work: 'Raitero'	no data	no data	18%	21%	13%	15%	10%	7%
Mode of transportation to work: Ride with others (share ride)	29%	36%	13%	9%	14%	13%	10%	8%
Mode of transportation to work: Other	4%	4%	1%	1% ^(a)	1% ^(a)	1%	1% ^(a)	1% ^(a)
Pay a fee for rides to work: No	80%	50%	27%	28%	37%	32%	38%	30%
Pay a fee for rides to work: Yes, a fee	20%	45%	38%	31%	29%	28%	22%	33%
Pay a fee for rides to work: Yes, just for gas	no data	5%	35%	41%	34%	39%	40%	37%

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Characteristic	Fiscal Years 1989-1991	Fiscal Years 1998-2000	Fiscal Years 2007-2009	Fiscal Years 2010-2012	Fiscal Years 2013-2014	Fiscal Years 2015-2016	Fiscal Years 2017-2018	Fiscal Years 2019-2020
Share of farmworkers who have health insurance, taking into account all provider sources, including the respondent's employer, self-insurance, the government, the spouse's employer, etc. [A21a]: No	no data	76%	66%	68%	65%	53%	43%	52%
Share of farmworkers who have health insurance, taking into account all provider sources, including the respondent's employer, self-insurance, the government, the spouse's employer, etc. [A21a]: Yes	no data	24%	33%	31%	35%	47%	56%	48%
Share of farmworkers who have health insurance, taking into account all provider sources, including the respondent's employer, self-insurance, the government, the spouse's employer, etc. [A21a]: Don't know	no data	1% ^(a)	1%	1% ^(a)	<1% ^(a)	1% ^(a)	1% ^(a)	^(b)
Share who held a non-farm job in the last 12 months	31%	15%	19%	28%	25%	24%	31%	22%
Average number of non-farm work weeks last 12 months	22	24	26	26	25	25	25	24
Plans to continue working in agriculture: Less than 1 year	9%	7%	3%	2%	3%	4%	5%	4%
Plans to continue working in agriculture: 1-3 years	12%	18%	16%	13%	12%	12%	10%	11%
Plans to continue working in agriculture: 4-5 years	7%	5%	5%	3%	4%	4%	4%	5%
Plans to continue working in agriculture: More than 5 years	4%	5%	9%	3%	2%	2%	3%	3%
Plans to continue working in agriculture: Over five years and as long as able to do the work	65%	56%	64%	76%	76%	74%	78%	76%
Plans to continue working in agriculture: Other	4%	9%	4%	3%	2%	3%	1% ^(a)	^(b)

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Characteristic	Fiscal Years 1989-1991	Fiscal Years 1998-2000	Fiscal Years 2007-2009	Fiscal Years 2010-2012	Fiscal Years 2013-2014	Fiscal Years 2015-2016	Fiscal Years 2017-2018	Fiscal Years 2019-2020
Could find a non-farm job within a month: No	28%	37%	33%	51%	47%	43%	33%	32%
Could find a non-farm job within a month: Yes	51%	39%	44%	32%	36%	45%	58%	57%
Could find a non-farm job within a month: Don't know	20%	24%	23%	17%	17%	12%	10%	11%

*Table 2 illustrates weighted data on farmworkers from the Employment and Training Administration's National Agricultural Workers Survey, Public Data, Fiscal Years (FY) 1989-2020.

**Values greater than 14 for number of hours worked per day were set to missing.

a Estimates should be interpreted with caution because they have relative standard errors between 31 and 50 percent.

b Estimates are suppressed because they are based on fewer than four observations or have relative standard errors greater than 50 percent.