

**Findings from the  
National Agricultural  
Workers Survey (NAWS)  
2017–2018:  
A Demographic and  
Employment Profile of  
United States Farmworkers**

Research Report No. 14

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March 2021

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is the fourteenth in a series of Department of Labor publications on the demographic and employment characteristics of hired agricultural workers in the United States (U.S.). 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 2017 and 2018. These findings are based on data collected from face-to-face interviews with 2,586 crop farmworkers through the U.S. Department of Labor’s National Agricultural Workers Survey (NAWS) between October 1, 2016 and September 30, 2018. The sample does not include crop workers with an H-2A visa.

### *Birthplace, Ethnicity, and Race*

Sixty-four percent of hired farmworkers interviewed in fiscal years 2017–2018 were born in Mexico, 32 percent were born in the United States or Puerto Rico, 3 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-seven percent of all farmworkers were Hispanic. Among U.S.-born workers, 30 percent were Hispanic. In terms of race, nearly one-third of crop workers self-identified as White (32%), and nearly two-thirds categorized their race with an “other” response (65%). Six percent of crop workers were identified as indigenous.

### *Work Authorization and Number of Years in the United States*

Work authorization describes farmworkers’ current work authorization status, including U.S. citizen (by birth or naturalization), legal permanent resident (green card), other work authorized, and unauthorized. Almost two-thirds of all farmworkers in 2017–2018 were authorized to work in the United States (63%); 38 percent were U.S. citizens, 24 percent were legal permanent residents, and 2 percent<sup>1</sup> 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 2017–2018 first came to the United States 22 years before being interviewed. Most respondents had been in the United States at least 10 years (87%), with 70 percent arriving 15 years or more prior to their NAWS interview. One percent<sup>2</sup> of foreign-born farmworkers were in their first year in the United States. Eighty-seven percent of farmworkers were settled workers, and 13 percent were migrants.

### *Demographics and Family Composition*

Males comprised 69 percent of the hired crop labor force in 2017–2018. Farmworkers had an average age of 41. Thirty-six percent of workers were under the age of 35, 46 percent were ages 35 to 54, and 18 percent were age 55 or older.

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<sup>1</sup> 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 a RSE of 31 percent to 50 percent and should be interpreted with caution.

<sup>2</sup> Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has a relative standard error (RSE) of 31 to 50 percent.

Fifty-seven percent of farmworkers were married. The percentage of crop workers who were parents fell compared to previous years (55% in 2015–2016 compared to 50% now). At the time when 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, 21 percent had 3 minor children, and 11 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). Eighty-one percent of these unaccompanied workers were single without children, 12 percent were parents, and 6 percent had a spouse but no children.

### ***Language and Education***

In 2017, 64 percent of farmworkers said that Spanish was the language in which they were most comfortable conversing, 33 percent said English was, and 3 percent<sup>3</sup> reported an indigenous language. In 2018, 65 percent said that Spanish was the language in which they were most comfortable conversing, 27 percent said English was, 6 percent said both Spanish and English,<sup>4</sup> 1 percent said more than one language,<sup>5</sup> and 1 percent reported an indigenous language.<sup>6</sup> In rating their English language skills, 23 percent of farmworkers reported that they could not speak English “at all,” 41 percent said they could speak English “a little” or “somewhat,” and 36 percent said they could speak English “well.” In terms of their ability to read English, 33 percent of workers reported they could not read English “at all.” 32 percent said they could read English “a little” or “somewhat,” and 35 percent said that they could read English “well.”

The average level of formal education completed by farmworkers was ninth grade. Two percent of workers reported that they had no formal schooling, and 35 percent reported that they completed the sixth or a lower grade. Eighteen percent of workers said they completed grade 7, 8, or 9, and 31 percent said they completed grade 10, 11, or 12. Twelve percent of workers reported completing some education beyond high school. Twenty-four percent of workers reported having taken at least one adult education class in the United States.

### ***Housing***

Fifty percent of farmworkers interviewed in 2017–2018 reported that they lived in housing they rented from someone other than their employer, 35 percent of workers said they lived in a home owned by themselves or a family member, and 2 percent said they paid rent for housing provided by the government, a charity, or other organization. Fourteen percent of workers lived in employer-provided housing; 9 percent received it free of charge, and 3 percent paid rent either directly or via payroll deduction.

Fifty-eight percent of all farmworkers reported living in detached, single-family houses, 18 percent said they lived in mobile homes, 20 percent lived in apartments, and 4 percent<sup>7</sup> lived in various other types of housing including duplexes or triplexes, dormitories or barracks, and

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<sup>3</sup> Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

<sup>4</sup> Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

<sup>5</sup> Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

<sup>6</sup> Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

<sup>7</sup> Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

motels or hotels. Twenty-six 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, 11 percent of workers reported that they lived where they worked, 74 percent lived fewer than 25 miles from their current farm job, and 13 percent lived between 25 and 49 miles from work. Sixty-nine percent of workers drove a car to work, 10 percent rode with others, 7 percent walked or took public transportation, and 10 percent rode with a “raitero.”<sup>8</sup>

### ***Job Characteristics and Employment History***

In 2017–2018, 89 percent of farmworkers were employed directly by growers, and 11 percent were employed by farm labor contractors. At the time of interview, 20 percent of farmworkers were working in vegetable crops, 41 percent in fruit and nut crops, and 22 percent in horticulture. Another 13 percent were working in field crops, and 4 percent<sup>9</sup> were working in mixed crops. Twenty-three percent of farmworkers were performing pre-harvest tasks, 24 percent were harvesting crops, 19 percent were performing post-harvest activities, and 34 percent were performing technical production tasks.

In the 12 months prior to being interviewed, respondents spent an average of 35 weeks employed in farm work and performed an average of 198 days of farm work. Workers worked an average of 4 days per week for their current employer and reported an average of 45 work hours in the previous week. The majority of workers said that their basis for pay was an hourly wage (84%), and workers reported earning an average of \$12.32 per hour. Fifty-five percent of farmworkers said that they were covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) if they were to lose their current job, 85 percent said they would receive workers’ compensation if they were injured at work or became ill as a result of their work, and 33 percent reported that their employer offered health insurance for injury or illness suffered while not on the job.

Eighty-one percent of workers reported having worked for only 1 farm employer in the previous 12 months, 12 percent worked for 2 employers, and 6 percent had 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. The majority of farmworkers interviewed in 2017–2018 expected to continue doing farm work for more than 5 years or as long as possible (80%).

In the year prior to their NAWS interview, workers spent an average of 9 weeks living in the United States but not working and 2 weeks abroad. Thirty-one percent of farmworkers held at least one non-crop work job in the previous 12 months, and those who held a non-crop job worked an average of 25 weeks in non-crop production employment.

### ***Income and Assets***

Farmworkers’ mean and median personal income in the previous year was in the range of \$20,000 to \$24,999. Eleven percent of workers said their total personal income was less than \$10,000, 24 percent said they had personal incomes of \$10,000 to \$19,999, 36 percent had personal incomes of \$20,000 to \$29,999, and 22 percent reported that their total personal income

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<sup>8</sup> “Raitero,” derived from “ride,” is the Spanish word for a person who charges a fee for providing a ride to work.

<sup>9</sup> Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

was \$30,000 or more. Five percent of workers reported that they did not work at all during the prior calendar year.

Workers' mean and median total family income the previous year was in the range of \$25,000 to \$29,999. Four percent of workers reported no family income for the prior year, 22 percent said that their total family income in the prior year was less than \$20,000, another 28 percent had a family income of \$20,000 to \$29,999, and 44 percent had a family income of \$30,000 or more.<sup>10</sup> Twenty-one percent of farmworkers had family incomes below the poverty level.

Approximately three-quarters of farmworkers stated that they owned or were buying at least one asset in the United States (77%). The most common assets were a vehicle (reported by 74% of workers) or a home (reported by 40% of workers).

In 2017–2018, 18 percent of farmworkers reported that someone in their household received a benefit from at least one contribution-based program, including disability insurance, UI, or Social Security. Thirteen percent of households received payments from UI, 2 percent received Social Security payments, and 3 percent received payments from disability insurance. Fifty-four 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 programs utilized were Medicaid (43%), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, 15%), Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC, 11%), and public health clinics (17%).

### ***Health Care***

Fifty-six percent of farmworkers interviewed in 2017–2018 reported that they had health insurance. Among them, 30 percent said their employer provided the insurance, 41 percent reported that they had insurance provided by the government, 10 percent said that they or their spouse paid for insurance themselves, 8 percent reported that they had insurance under their spouse's employer's plan, 7 percent reported that they were covered by a family member other than the spouse, such as a parent, and 7 percent reported that some other entity paid for their insurance.<sup>11</sup> Among workers with spouses, 66 percent said their spouse had health insurance. Among workers with minor children in the United States or Puerto Rico, 92 percent reported that all of their children had health insurance, 2 percent reported that some of their children had health insurance, and 5 percent reported that none of their children had health insurance.

Seventy-one percent of farmworkers used a health care provider in the United States sometime in the last two years. The last time they visited a health care provider, 44 percent of workers went to a private medical doctor's office or private clinic, 31 percent said they visited a community health center or migrant health clinic, 15 percent saw a dentist, 7 percent went to a hospital, and 2 percent went to some other health care provider.

Twenty-six percent of farmworkers paid for their last health care visit out of their own pockets, 24 percent said that they had Medicaid or Medicare, 15 percent reported that the cost was

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<sup>10</sup> One percent of workers reported that they did not know their family income for the prior year.

<sup>11</sup> Percentages sum to more than 100 percent because respondents could select all that apply.

covered by health insurance provided by their employer, and 16 percent said the majority of the cost was covered by health insurance that they or their family had purchased themselves. An additional 11 percent of workers stated that they went to a public clinic that did not charge for the visit; 2 percent reported that they used some combination of sources to pay, they were covered by worker's compensation, or that they were billed for service but did not pay; and the remaining 6 percent provided a variety of other responses. The most common difficulty farmworkers said they faced when they needed to access health care was that health care visits were too expensive (reported by 23% of respondents).

## INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Department of Labor's National Agricultural Workers Survey (NAWS) is an employment-based, random-sample survey of U.S. crop workers that collects demographic, employment, and health data in face-to-face interviews. The survey began in Federal Fiscal Year 1989; since then, more than 68,000 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 comprises 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
- crop workers 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 crop workers in future survey waves.

The NAWS is unique for its broad coverage of the characteristics of hired crop workers 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 crop workers. 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:

- 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.

A full description of the survey's sampling design is available in the Statistical Methods of the National Agricultural Workers Survey ([https://www.doleta.gov/naws/methodology/docs/NAWS\\_Statistical\\_Methods\\_AKA\\_Supporting\\_Statement\\_Part\\_B.pdf](https://www.doleta.gov/naws/methodology/docs/NAWS_Statistical_Methods_AKA_Supporting_Statement_Part_B.pdf)).

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 2,586 crop workers interviewed between October 1, 2016, and September 30, 2018. It is organized into nine chapters, each beginning with a summary of the chapter's key findings. 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 principle variables presented in the report, and Appendix D contains tables of demographics and employment characteristic covering seven periods from 1989 to 2018.

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 types of housing they live in, the location of their housing in relation to their jobs, and crowding conditions. 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.

## CHAPTER 1: Birthplace, Work Authorization, and Migrant Types

### **Summary of Findings:**

- About 6 in 10 hired farmworkers were born in Mexico (64%).
- Seventy-seven percent of all farmworkers were Hispanic. Among U.S.-born workers, 30 percent were Hispanic.
- Thirty-two percent of farmworkers self-identified as White, 3 percent as Black or African American,<sup>12</sup> and 65 percent of respondents did not select a category; instead, they described race with an open-ended “other” response.
- Six percent of farmworkers were identified as indigenous.
- Farmworkers in their first year in the United States comprised only 1 percent<sup>13</sup> of the hired crop labor force.
- Nearly two-thirds of all farmworkers had work authorization (63%).
- The majority of farmworkers were settled workers (87%). Thirteen percent were migrants.

### **Place of Birth**

More than 6 in 10 hired farmworkers interviewed in 2017–2018 were born in Mexico (64%), one-third were born in the United States or Puerto Rico, 3 percent were born in Central America, and a small portion (<1%<sup>14</sup>) originated from various other regions, including South America, the Caribbean, Asia, and the Pacific Islands (figure 1.1).

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<sup>12</sup> Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

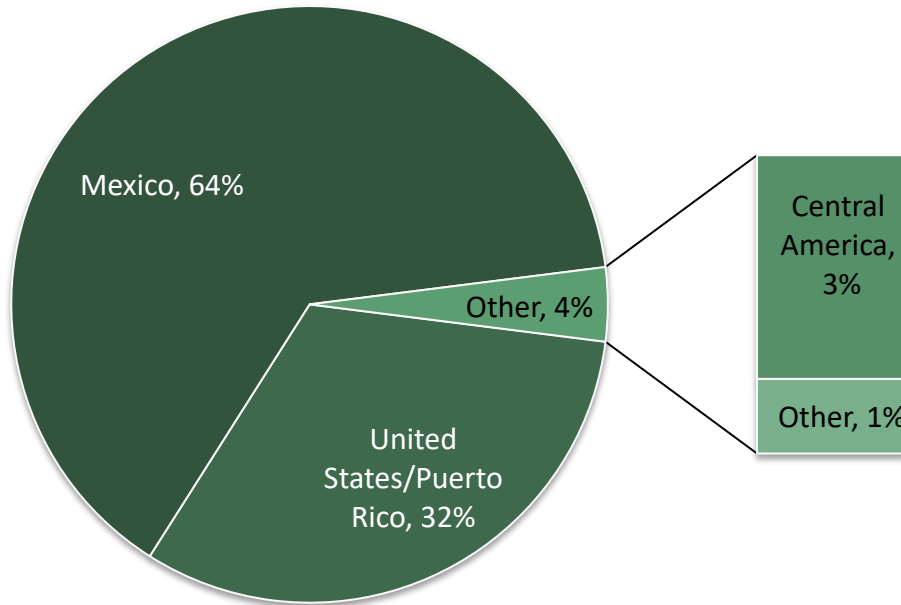
<sup>13</sup> Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

<sup>14</sup> Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 to 50 percent.



Figure 1.1: Place of Birth, 2017–2018

**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.<sup>15</sup> 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-seven percent of workers identified themselves as members of a Hispanic group: 61 percent as Mexican, 11 percent as Mexican-American, and the remaining 5 percent as Chicano, Puerto Rican, or other Hispanic. Among U.S.-born workers, 30 percent self-identified as Hispanic: 18 percent as Mexican-American, 8 percent<sup>16</sup> as Mexican, and 4<sup>17</sup> percent as Puerto Rican, Chicano, or other Hispanic.

<sup>15</sup> Humes, K. R., Jones, N. A., and Ramirez, R. R. (2011). [Overview of Race and Hispanic Origin: 2010](#). 2010 Census Briefs (p. 2).

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

<sup>17</sup> Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

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 required by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. Thirty-two percent of all respondents in 2017–2018 self-identified as White, 3 percent as Black or African American,<sup>18</sup> and 65 percent of respondents gave an answer not on the standard list. Among them, 87 percent classified their race as Latino or Hispanic (including Latino, Hispanic, Hispano, Mexican, Mexicano, Mexican-American, and Chicano), 8 percent referenced their complexion (including Moreno and Café), 2 percent identified with an indigenous group, and 2 percent identified with their Central American origin (Guatemalan, Honduran, and Salvadoran). Fewer than 1 percent provided other responses (examples include American, Filipino, and Portuguese).

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 adult languages spoken as well as childhood language exposure.<sup>19</sup> The NAWS uses a combination of the responses to these questions and the question about race to identify farmworkers who are indigenous, and, in 2017–2018, 6 percent of NAWS respondents were identified as indigenous based on their race, language, and childhood language.

### ***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 2017–2018 first came to the United States 22 years before being interviewed. The majority of respondents had been in the United States at least 10 years (87%), with more than half arriving at least 15 years prior to their NAWS interview (70%). Farmworkers who first arrived in the United States in the year predating their interview comprised 1 percent<sup>20</sup> of workers interviewed in 2017–2018 (figure 1.2).

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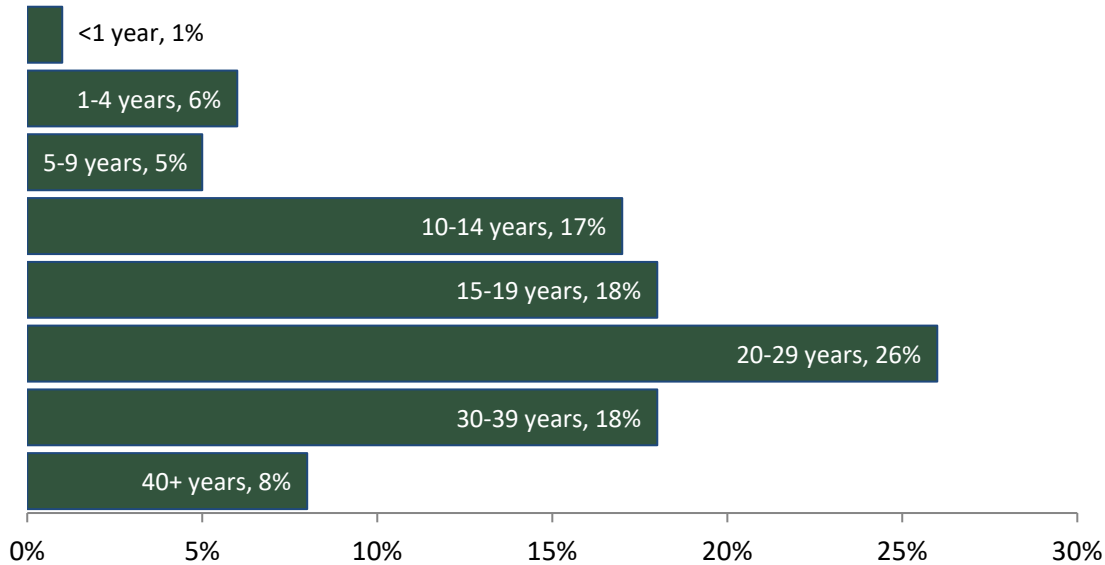
<sup>18</sup> Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

<sup>19</sup> 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.

<sup>20</sup> 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, 2017–2018

**Nearly 90 percent of foreign-born farmworkers had been in the United States for at least 10 years.**



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 2017–2018, most came from the states of Michoacán (27%), Guanajuato (10%), Jalisco (10%), Oaxaca (10%), Baja California (6%), and Guerrero (5%). The greatest proportion of Mexico-born farmworkers originated from the Western Central region (49%), 28 percent came from Northern Mexico, and another 23 percent came from Southern Mexico.<sup>21</sup>

### **Work Authorization**

A series of related questions in the survey provides a picture of whether foreign-born respondents have work authorization. These questions address the foreign-born worker’s existing status (citizen, legal permanent resident, border crossing-card holder, applicant for residency, temporary visa holder, or unauthorized) and, when applicable, the date and program under which the individual applied for work authorization. In addition, each foreign-born respondent is asked whether he or she has 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 visa program that expired before he or she entered the country would be classified as unauthorized.

<sup>21</sup> 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.

Sixty-three percent of the hired crop labor force had work authorization in 2017–2018, 38 percent of whom were U.S. citizens. Among the 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 legal permanent residents (24%), and 2 percent<sup>22</sup> had work authorization 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.<sup>23</sup>

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 the purpose of 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 destination locations 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).

Thirteen percent of farmworkers interviewed in 2017–2018 were migrants (see figure 1.3). Among them, nearly half were domestic migrants (24% domestic follow-the-crop and 23% domestic shuttle migrants), more than a third were international migrants (3% international follow-the-crop and 39% international shuttle migrants), and 11 percent were newcomers who had been in the U.S. less than a year (see figures 1.4 and 1.5).

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<sup>22</sup> Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

<sup>23</sup> 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 2017–2018, 16 percent of farmworkers reported that they traveled to another city to do farm work sometime during the previous 24 months.

Figure 1.3: Distribution of Settled and Migrants, 2017–2018

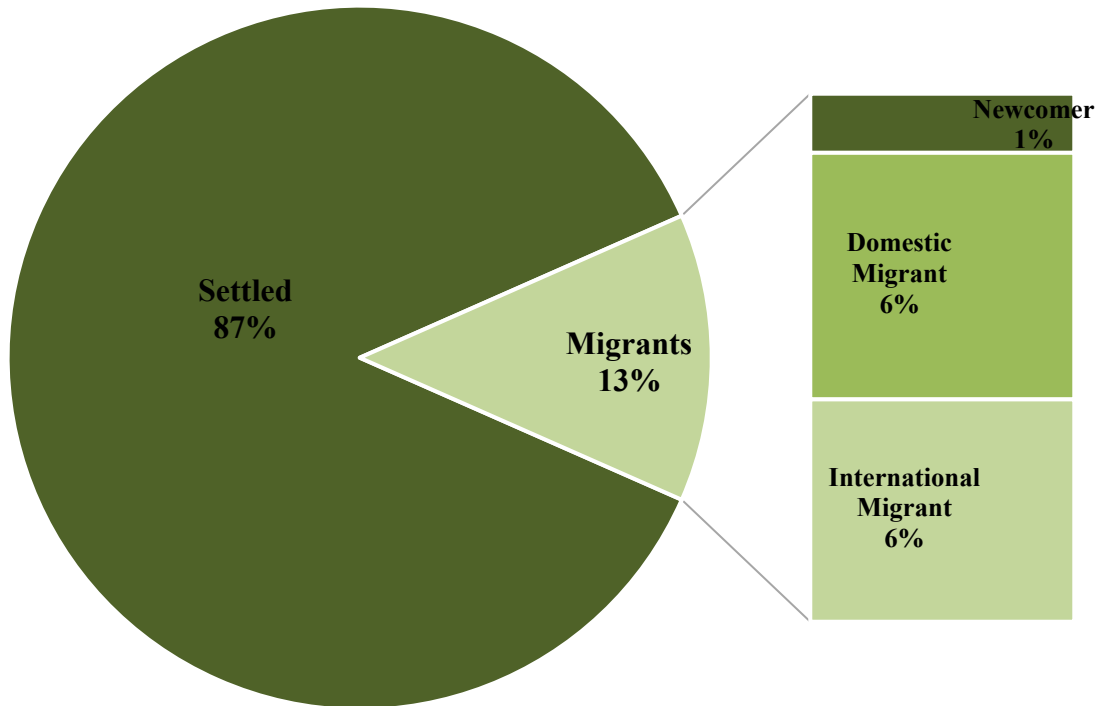


Figure 1.4: Distribution of Migrant Types (As Percent of Migrants), 2017–2018

Nearly half of migrants were domestic.

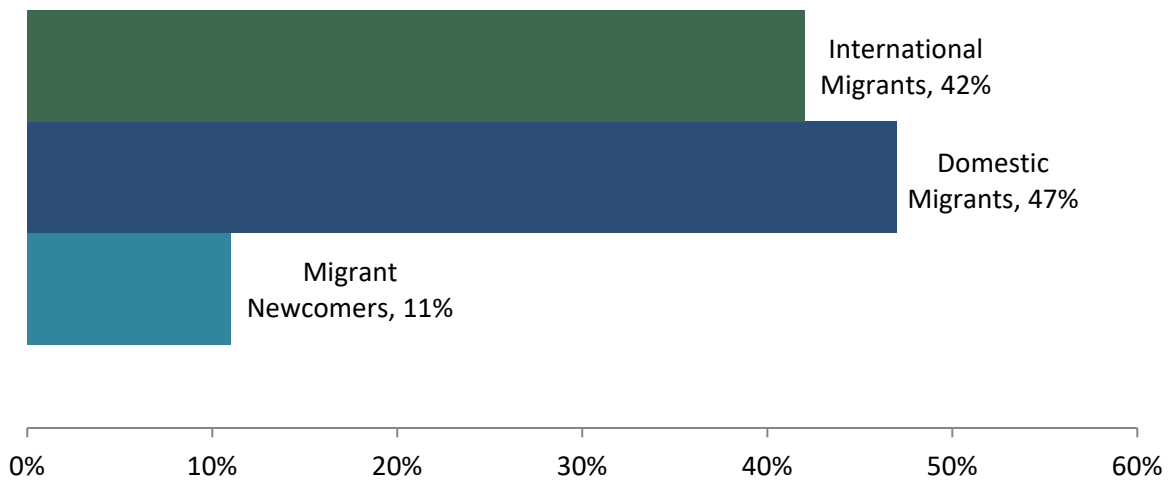
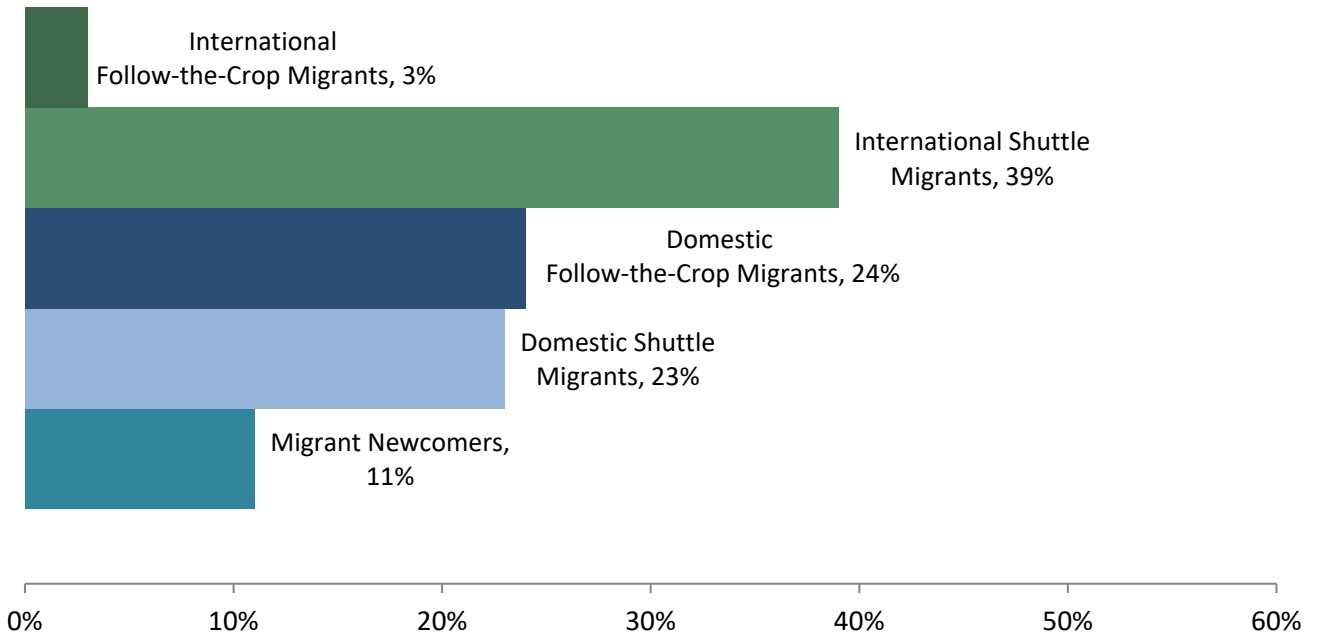


Figure 1.5: Distribution of Migrant Types According to Their Migrant Travel Patterns (As Percent of Migrants), 2017–2018

Most international migrants were shuttle migrants.



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

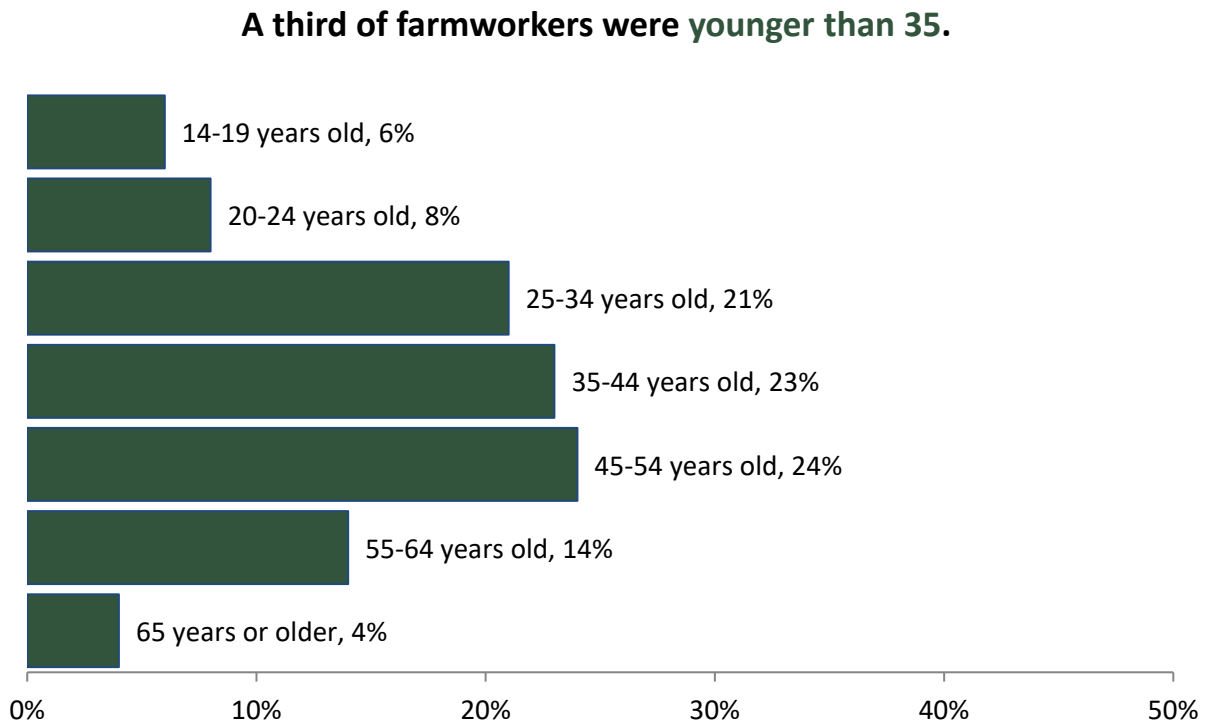
### Summary of Findings:

- Sixty-nine percent of farmworkers were men.
- Farmworkers’ average age was 41, and median age was 40.
- Fifty-seven percent of farmworkers were married, and 50 percent had children.
- Thirty-eight percent of farmworkers were living apart from all nuclear family members at the time of their interview. Eighty-one percent of unaccompanied farmworkers were single workers without children, 12 percent were parents, and 6 percent had a spouse but no children.

### Gender and Age

In 2017–2018, the U.S. crop labor force was predominantly male (69%) and had an average age of 41 and median age of 40. Just over one-third of crop workers were under the age of 35 (36%), and 18 percent were age 55 or older (figure 2.1).

Figure 2.1: Age Distribution of Farmworkers, 2017–2018



In 2017–2018, 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 40 years, respectively.

**Marital Status and Family Type**

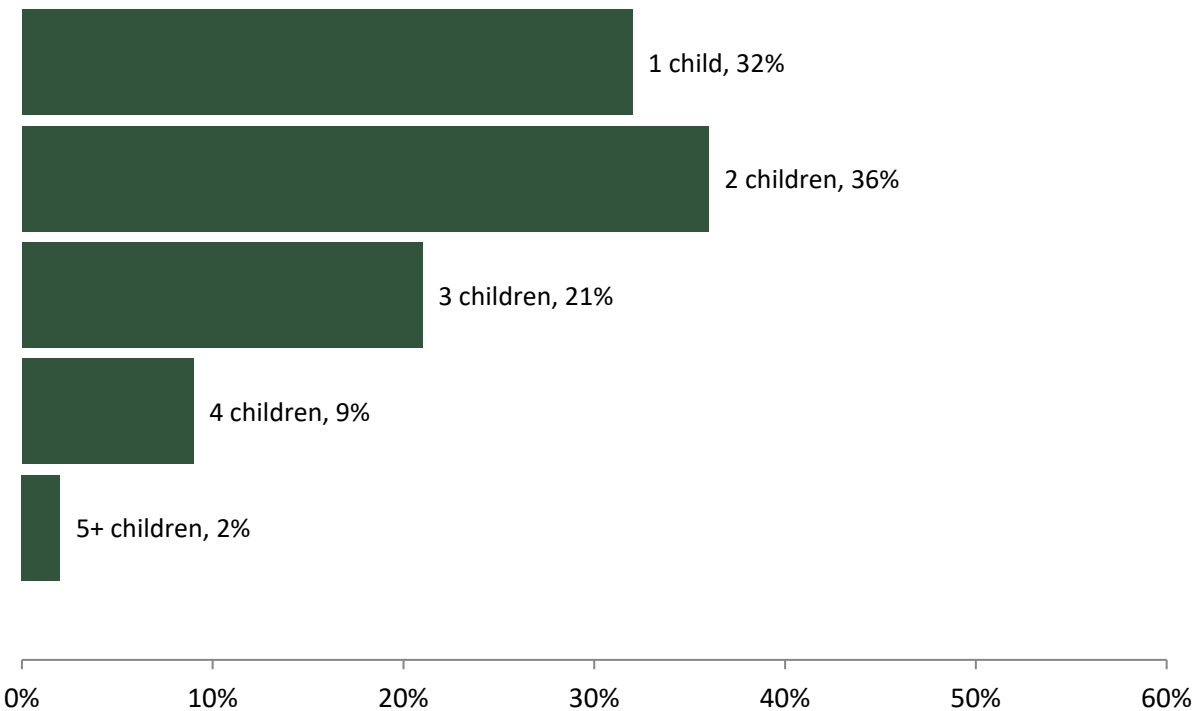
More than half of farmworkers interviewed in 2017–2018 were married (57%), and half were parents (50%). Among parents, 78 percent were married or living together, 14 percent were single, and 8 percent were separated, divorced, or widowed.

**Children and Household Structure**

In 2017–2018, 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), 21 percent had 3 minor children, 9 percent had 4 minor children, and 2 percent had 5 or more minor children (figure 2.2).

**Figure 2.2: Number of Minor Children in the Household of Farmworkers, 2017–2018**

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



Of parents with children under the age of 18, 46 percent had children younger than age 6, 68 percent had children ages 6–13, and 43 percent had children ages 14–17. One percent<sup>24</sup> of parents resided with only some of their minor children, and 11 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 (40% and 7% respectively).

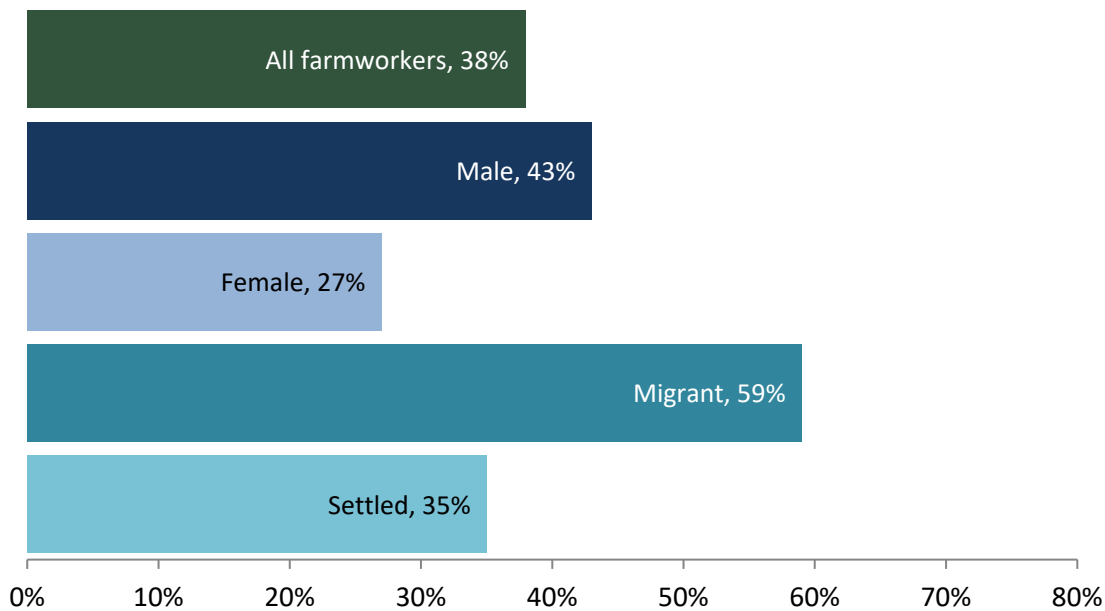
<sup>24</sup> Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 to 50 percent.



“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 2017–2018. Migrant workers were much more likely than settled workers to be unaccompanied (59% and 35% respectively) as were men when compared to women (43% and 27% respectively). See figure 2.3. Most of the unaccompanied were single workers without children (81%), 12 percent were parents, and 6 percent had a spouse but no children.

Figure 2.3: Percent of Farmworkers Unaccompanied by Nuclear Family, 2017–2018

**Male and migrant farmworkers were more likely to be unaccompanied by nuclear family.**



Among farmworker parents in 2017–2018, nearly all mothers (98%) and almost 9 of 10 fathers (87%) were accompanied by at least some nuclear family members. Similarly, among married workers without children, 98 percent of women and 82 percent of the men were accompanied at the time of the interview.

## CHAPTER 3: Language, Education, and English Skills

### **Summary of Findings:**

- Approximately two-thirds of farmworkers reported that Spanish is their primary language (64%).
- Thirty-six percent of workers reported that they could speak English “well,” and 23 percent said, “not at all.” Thirty-five percent reported that they could read English “well” while 33 percent said, “not at all.”
- The average level of formal education completed by farmworkers was ninth grade.
- Twenty-four percent of workers reported having taken at least one adult education class in the United States.

### **Primary Language**

Similar percentage of farmworkers said that Spanish, English, or both languages were their primary languages in 2017–2018. In 2017, approximately two-thirds of farmworkers said that Spanish was the language in which they are most comfortable conversing (64%), 33 percent said English was, and 3 percent reported an indigenous language.<sup>25, 26</sup> Among workers born in Mexico or Central America, nearly all reported that Spanish was their primary language (93%). Of the remainder, 2 percent said that English was their primary language, and 5 percent reported an indigenous language as the one in which they are most comfortable conversing.<sup>27</sup> In 2018, more than two-thirds of farmworkers said that Spanish was the language in which they are most comfortable conversing (65%), 27 percent said English was, 6 percent said both Spanish and English,<sup>28</sup> 1 percent said more than one language,<sup>29</sup> and 1 percent reported an indigenous language.<sup>30</sup> Among workers born in Mexico or Central America, nearly all reported that Spanish was their primary language (92%). Of the remainder, 2 percent said that English was their primary language,<sup>31</sup> and 4 percent said both Spanish and English.

### **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 2017–2018, 23 percent of workers responded that they could not speak English “at all,” 28 percent said they could speak English “a little,” 13 percent said they could speak English “somewhat,” and 36 percent said they could speak English “well.” Regarding their ability to read English, 33 percent of the hired crop labor force reported they could not read English “at all,” 21 percent said they could read English “a little,” 11 percent said they could read English “somewhat,” and 35 percent said they could read English “well” (figure 3.1).<sup>32</sup>

<sup>25</sup> Indigenous languages reported by farmworkers interviewed in 2017–2018 include Acateco, Amuzgo, Chatino, Chuj, Mam, Nahuatl, Popti, Purepecha/Tarasco, Tlapaneco, and Triqui.

<sup>26</sup> Estimates should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

<sup>27</sup> Estimates should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

<sup>28</sup> Estimates should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

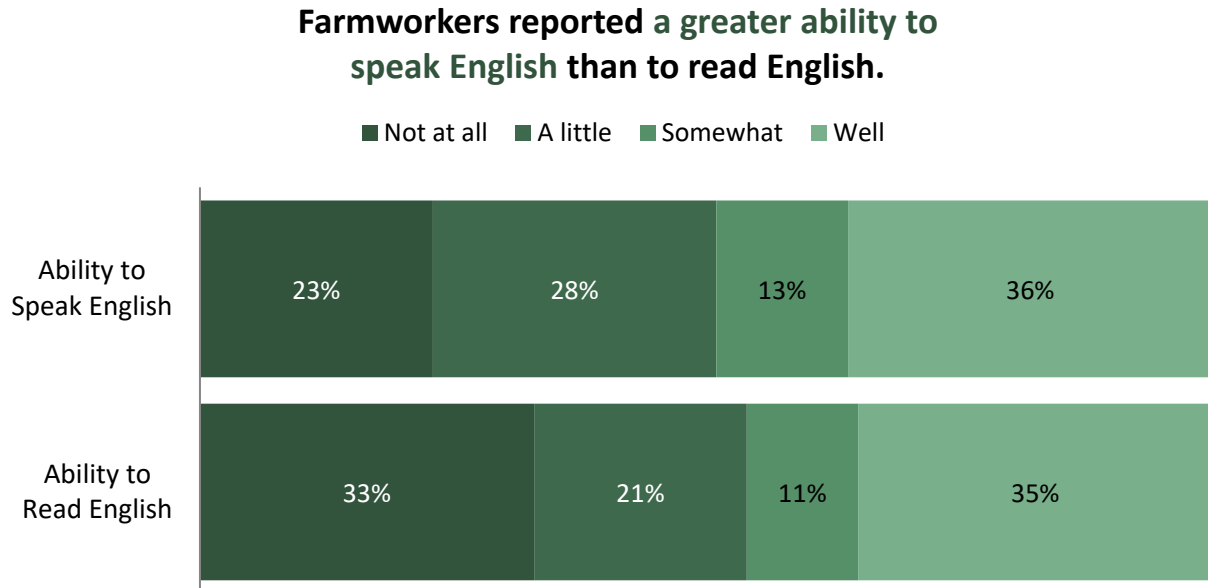
<sup>29</sup> Estimates should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

<sup>30</sup> Estimates should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

<sup>31</sup> Estimates should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

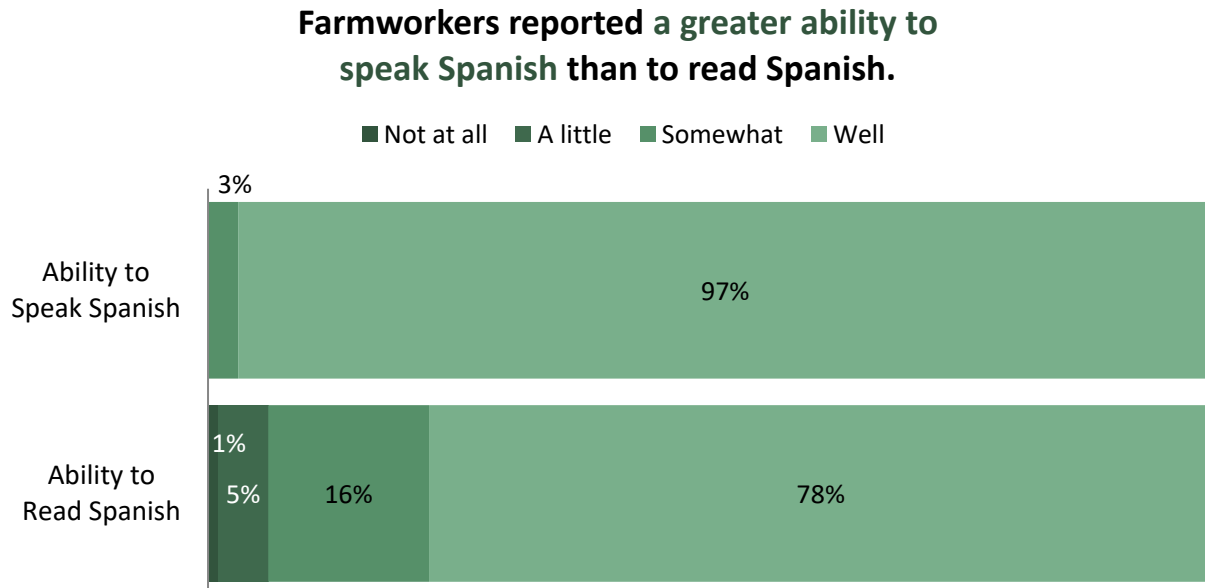
<sup>32</sup> Respondents’ self-reports of language proficiency might be higher or lower than their actual proficiency.

**Figure 3.1: Farmworkers' Self-Reported English Speaking and Reading Ability, 2017–2018**



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” (97%). In describing their Spanish reading ability, 78 percent responded with “well,” 16 percent replied with “somewhat,” 5 percent said “a little,” and 1 percent replied with “not at all” (figure 3.2).

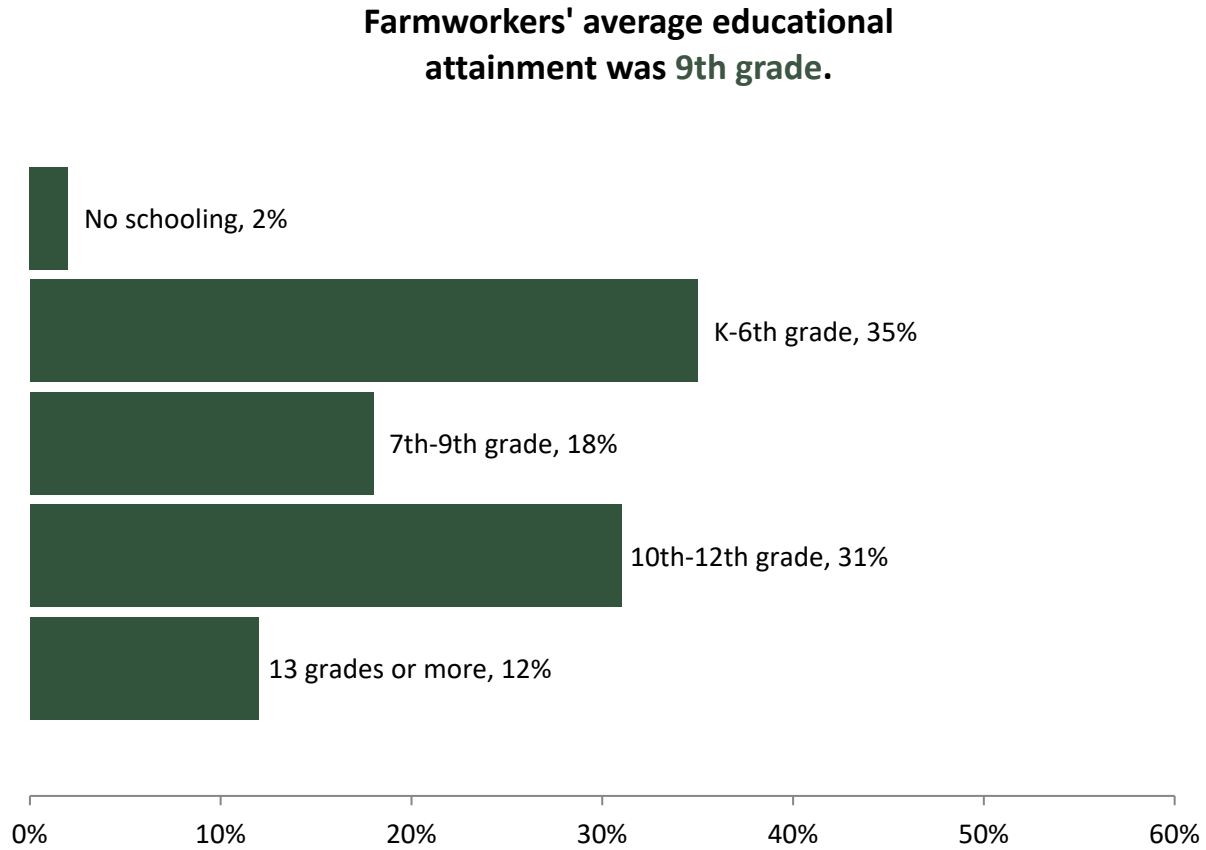
**Figure 3.2: Among Farmworkers Whose Primary Language Is Spanish, Self-Reported Spanish Speaking and Reading Ability, 2017–2018**



**Education**

In 2017–2018, farmworkers’ average educational attainment was ninth grade. Two percent of workers reported that they had no formal schooling, and 35 percent reported that they completed the 6<sup>th</sup> grade or lower. Eighteen percent of workers said they completed grade 7, 8, or 9, and 31 percent said they completed grade 10, 11, or 12. Twelve percent of farmworkers reported completing some education beyond high school (figure 3.3).

Figure 3.3: Distribution of Highest Grade Completed by Farmworkers, 2017–2018



The highest grade completed varied by place of birth. On average, the highest grade completed by workers born in the United States was 12<sup>th</sup>, and the highest grade completed by workers born in Mexico or other countries was 7<sup>th</sup>. Approximately 8 in 10 U.S.-born farmworkers completed the 12<sup>th</sup> grade or higher (76%) as did 18 percent of Mexico-born workers and 23 percent of workers born in other countries.

**Adult Education**

In 2017–2018, 24 percent of farmworkers reported having taken at least one adult education class in the United States sometime in their lives. The most common classes were English (13%), job training (30%), college or university classes (6%), and high school equivalency (GED) classes (4%). Small shares of workers (4%) reported taking other types of classes (figure 3.4).

**Figure 3.4: Percent of Farmworkers Who Attended Adult Education Classes, 2017–2018**

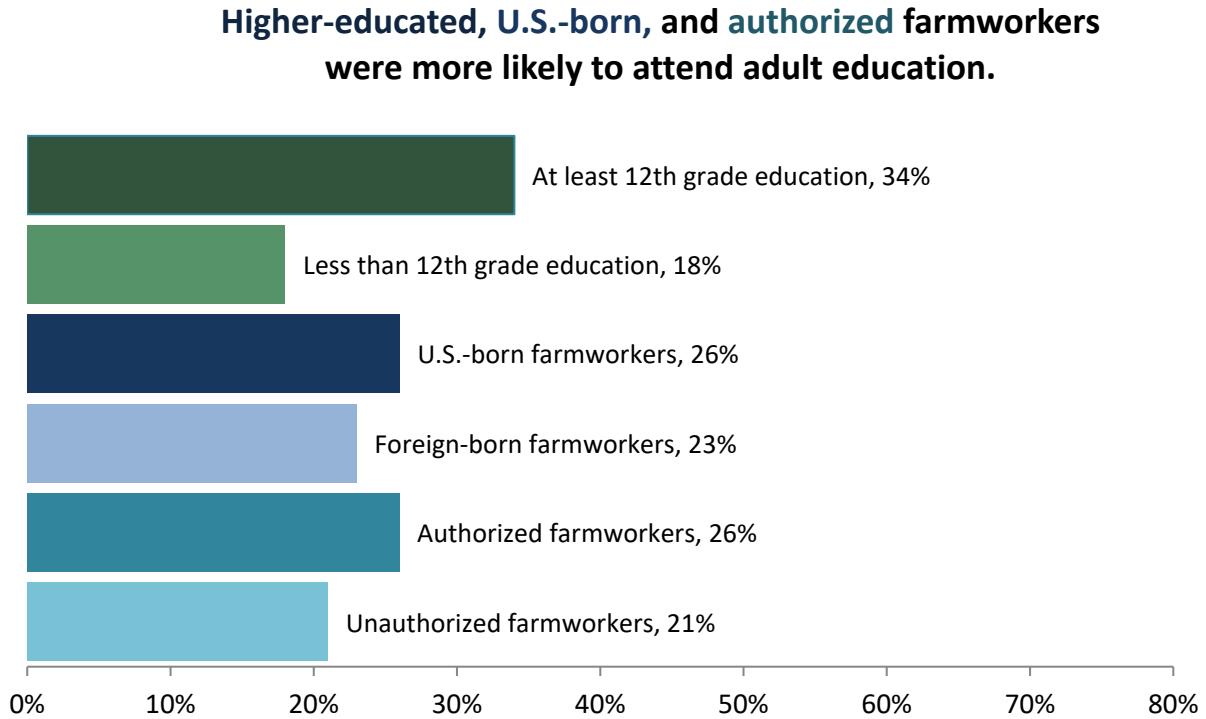
Type of Class <sup>a</sup>	Percent of Farmworkers
<b>Any adult education</b>	24%
<b>Job training</b>	30%
<b>English/ESL</b>	13%
<b>College/University</b>	6%
<b>GED, HS equivalency</b>	4%
<b>Citizenship</b>	3% <sup>b</sup>
<b>Other</b>	4%

<sup>a</sup> Farmworkers may have attended multiple types of classes.

<sup>b</sup> Estimates should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

Farmworkers with the most formal education were the most likely to attend U.S. adult education classes. The rate of attendance among those who had completed the 12<sup>th</sup> grade was almost twice as high as the rate of those who had not (34% and 18% respectively). Similarly, workers born in the United States were more likely than those born abroad to report having attended some type of adult education class (26% and 23% respectively), as were authorized workers when compared to unauthorized workers (26% and 21% respectively). See figure 3.5.

**Figure 3.5: Percent of Farmworkers Who Attended At Least One Adult Education Class in the United States, 2017–2018**



## CHAPTER 4: Housing Characteristics and Distance to Work

### *Summary of Findings:*

- Fourteen percent of farmworkers lived in a dwelling owned or administered by their current employer: 11 percent on the farm of the grower for whom they were working and 3 percent off the farm.
- Fifty-eight percent of workers lived in detached, single-family houses.
- One-quarter of farmworkers lived in a dwelling defined as “crowded” (26%).
- Seven in 10 workers lived fewer than 25 miles from their current farm job (74%), and 13 percent lived between 25 and 49 miles from work. Eleven percent of workers lived where they worked.
- Sixty-nine percent of workers drove a car to work, 10 percent rode with a “raitero,”<sup>33</sup> and 4 percent took a labor bus, truck, or van.

### *Location of Housing and Payment Arrangement*

Farmworkers provided information about their housing situation (arrangement, location, type, and occupancy) while working at their current farm job. Fourteen percent of farmworkers lived in employer-provided housing (i.e., property owned or administered by their current employer): 11 percent on the farm of the grower for whom they were working and 3 percent off the farm. The remaining 86 percent of workers lived in a property not owned or administered by their current employer.

Similar proportions of employer-provided housing (either on or off the employer’s farm) were reported in the Eastern, Midwest, and Western migrant streams,<sup>34</sup> with 16 percent of Eastern farmworkers interviewed in 2017–2018 reporting that they lived in employer-provided housing, 13 percent<sup>35</sup> of workers in the Midwest migrant stream, and 13 percent in the Western migrant stream (figure 4.1).

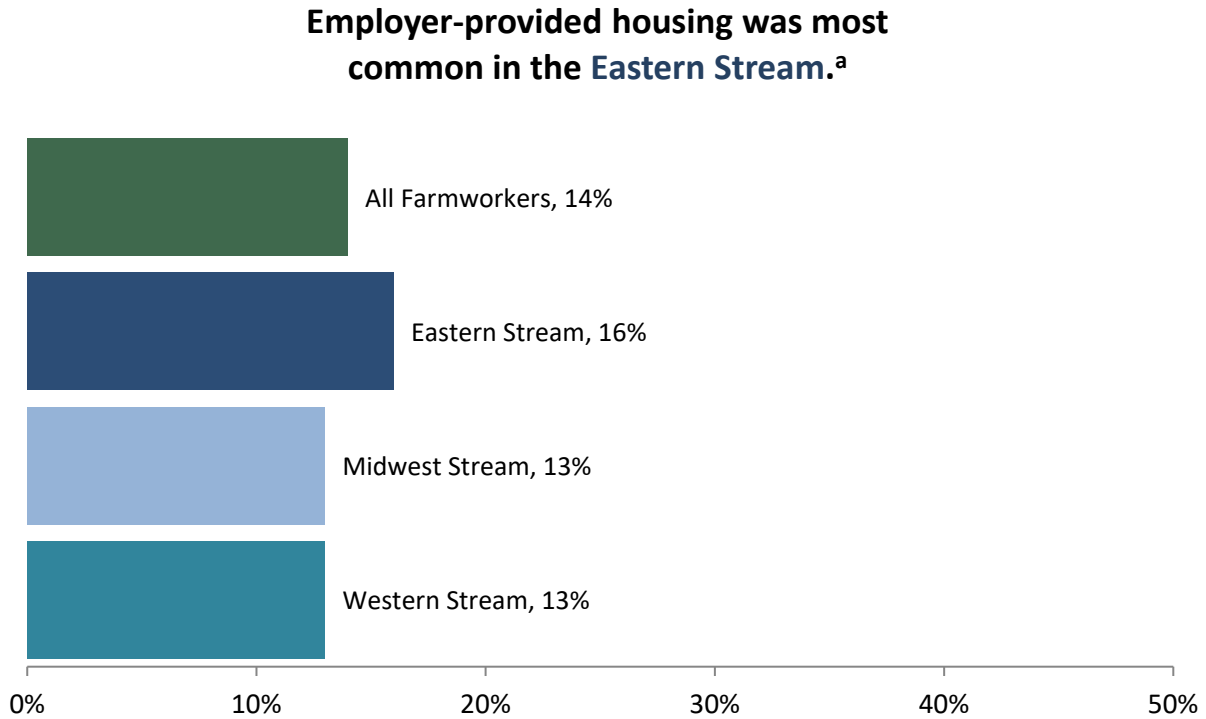
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<sup>33</sup> “Raitero,” derived from “ride,” is the Spanish word for a person who charges a fee for providing a ride to work.

<sup>34</sup> 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.

<sup>35</sup> Estimates should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

Figure 4.1: Percent of Farmworkers Who Lived in Employer-Provided Housing, 2017–2018



<sup>a</sup> A map of the NAWs migrant streams can be found in Appendix B.

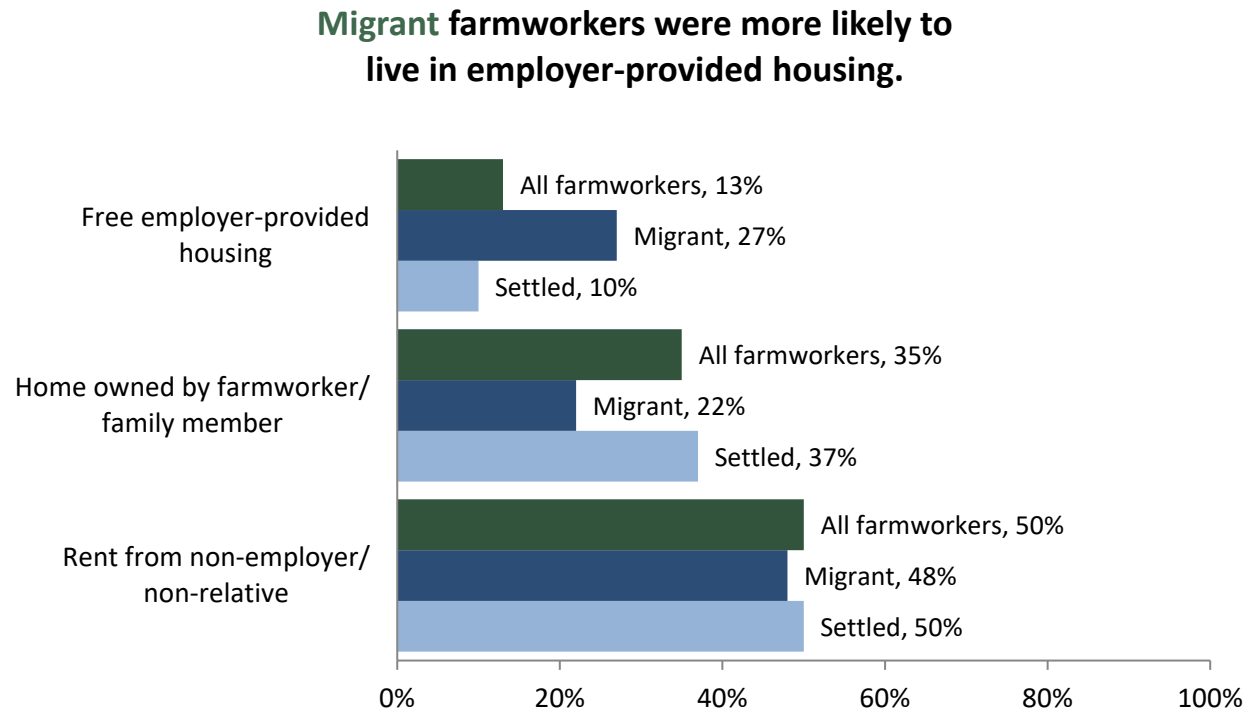
In addition to information about the location of their housing, farmworkers provided information about the payment arrangements for their housing. In 2017–2018, more than half of all farmworkers reported that they lived in housing they rented from someone other than their employer (50%), 35 percent of workers said they lived in a home owned by themselves or a family member, 2 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, 9 percent received it free of charge, 3 percent paid rent either directly or via payroll deduction, and fewer than 1 percent<sup>36</sup> had other arrangements with their employers.

Migrant workers were more than 2 times as likely as settled workers to live in employer-provided housing free of charge (27% and 10% respectively) and far less likely than settled workers to live in a home they or a family member owned (22% and 37% respectively). See figure 4.2.

<sup>36</sup> Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.



Figure 4.2: Housing Arrangement, 2017–2018



Farmworkers who reported that they paid for their housing were asked how much they paid at their current residence, including for their family if their family lived with them. Six percent reported that they paid less than 200 dollars per month, almost a quarter said they paid 200–399 dollars per month (21%), 27 percent paid 400–599 dollars per month, and 46 percent paid 600 dollars or more per month.

### ***Type of Housing***

In 2017–2018, more than half of farmworkers reported living in detached, single-family houses (58%), 18 percent said they lived in mobile homes, and another 20 percent lived in apartments. The remaining 4 percent<sup>37</sup> lived in other types of housing.<sup>38</sup>

Migrant workers were less likely than settled workers to report living in detached, single-family homes (41% and 61% respectively) or mobile homes (16% and 18% respectively) and more likely than settled workers to live in apartments (30% and 18% respectively). Unauthorized workers were less likely than authorized workers to reside in single-family homes (44% and 67% respectively) and more likely to live in mobile homes (23% and 15% respectively) and apartments (28% and 15% respectively). See figure 4.3.

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

<sup>38</sup> 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, 2017–2018**

Type of Housing	All				
	Farmworkers	Migrant	Settled	Authorized	Unauthorized
<b>Single family home</b>	58%	41%	61%	67%	44%
<b>Mobile home</b>	18%	16%	18%	15%	23%
<b>Apartment</b>	20%	30%	18%	15%	28%
<b>Other</b>	4% <sup>a</sup>	12% <sup>a</sup>	2%	3% <sup>a</sup>	5% <sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 percent to 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, 45 percent lived in single-family homes compared to 47 percent of those that had been in the United States between 10 and 19 years and 55 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, 2017–2018**

Type of Housing	In United States		
	Less than 10 Years	10-19 Years	20 Years or More
<b>Single family home</b>	45%	47%	55%
<b>Mobile home</b>	22%	20%	19%
<b>Apartment</b>	26%	30%	21%
<b>Other</b>	7% <sup>a</sup>	<sup>b</sup>	5%

<sup>a</sup> Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 percent to 50 percent.

<sup>b</sup> Estimate is suppressed because it has a RSE greater than 50 percent.

In 2017–2018, farmworkers reported they had an average of six rooms in the dwellings they lived in: 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.<sup>39</sup> 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 2017–2018, 26 percent of farmworkers lived in crowded dwellings. Migrant workers lived in crowded dwellings with greater frequency than settled workers (41% compared to 24%), and

<sup>39</sup> 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 (39% and 19% respectively).

### ***Distance to Work and Transportation***

When asked how far their current farm job was from their current residence, 11 percent of farmworkers in 2017–2018 reported that they lived where they worked, 33 percent said they lived within 9 miles of their job location, 41 percent lived between 10 and 24 miles from work, 13 percent lived between 25 and 49 miles from work, and 2 percent lived 50 or more miles from work.

Farmworkers used various modes of transportation to get to work. In 2017–2018, 69 percent of workers reported that they drove a car (74% of workers said they owned a car or truck, as discussed in chapter 8), and 7 percent said they walked or took public transit. Twenty-four percent of workers did not provide their own transportation but commuted via rides with others (10%), rides with a “raitero”<sup>40</sup> (10%), or rides on a labor bus, truck or van (4%).

Among workers who did not provide their own transportation, 3 percent<sup>41</sup> reported that it was mandatory or obligatory for them to use their current mode of transportation. Twenty-two percent of workers who did not provide their own transportation reported having to pay a fee for these rides to work, and 40 percent said they paid, but only for gas. Thirty-seven percent said they paid no fee for their rides with the “raitero,” on the labor bus, or with others.

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<sup>40</sup> “Raitero,” derived from “ride,” is the Spanish word for a person who charges a fee for providing a ride to work.

<sup>41</sup> 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 farmworkers were employed directly by growers (89%), and 11 percent were employed by farm labor contractors.
- At the time of interview, 41 percent of farmworkers were working in fruit and nut crops, 20 percent in vegetable crops, and 22 percent in horticulture. Thirteen percent were working in field crops, and 4 percent<sup>42</sup> were working in mixed crops.
- At the time of interview, 23 percent of farmworkers were performing pre-harvest tasks, 24 percent were harvesting crops, 19 percent were performing post-harvest activities, and 34 percent were performing technical production tasks.
- Most farmworkers reported that their basis for pay was an hourly wage (84%). Workers reported earning an average of \$12.32 per hour at their current farm job.
- Fifty-five percent of farmworkers reported that they were covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) if they were to lose their current job, 85 percent said they would receive workers' compensation if they were injured at work or became ill as a result of their work, and 33 percent reported that their employer offered health insurance for injury or illness suffered while not on the job.

### **Type of Employer and Job Recruitment**

Most farmworkers in 2017–2018 were employed directly by growers<sup>43</sup> (89%); farm labor contractors employed the remaining 11 percent. About 6 in 10 workers reported that they found their current job via references from friends or relatives (60%) and one-third got their job after applying for it on their own (30%). Seven percent of workers were recruited by a grower, foreman, or labor contractor, and the remaining 4 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 2017–2018, 83 percent of farmworkers reported working in fruits, nuts, vegetables, and horticultural crops (41% in fruits and nuts, 20% in vegetables, and 22% in horticulture). Thirteen percent held jobs in field crops, and 4 percent worked in mixed crops or other crops. Workers employed by farm labor contractors were less likely than those employed directly by growers to work in vegetable crops (16%<sup>44</sup> compared to 21%) and more likely than directly-hired workers to work in fruit and nut crops (67% compared to 38%). Migrant farmworkers worked in vegetable crops with almost equal frequency as settled workers (19% and 21% respectively), but were less likely than settled workers to have jobs in horticultural crops (11% and 24% respectively). See figure 5.1.

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<sup>42</sup> Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has an RSE of 31 to 50 percent.

<sup>43</sup> 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.

<sup>44</sup> 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, 2017–2018**

Crop at Time of Interview	All Farmworkers	Employed by Grower	Employed by Farm		
			Labor Contractor	Migrant Farmworkers	Settled Farmworkers
<b>Fruits and Nuts</b>	41%	38%	67%	54%	39%
<b>Horticulture</b>	22%	25%	<sup>a</sup>	11% <sup>b</sup>	24%
<b>Vegetables</b>	20%	21%	16% <sup>b</sup>	19%	21%
<b>Field Crops</b>	13%	15%	<sup>a</sup>	7%	14%
<b>Miscellaneous/ Multiple</b>	4% <sup>b</sup>	2%	<sup>a</sup>	9%	2%

<sup>a</sup> Estimate is suppressed because it has a RSE greater than 50 percent.

<sup>b</sup> Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 percent to 50 percent.

Over the course of a year and even in a single day, crop workers 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 crop workers interviewed in 2017–2018, 23 percent performed pre-harvest tasks such as hoeing, thinning, and transplanting; 24 percent harvested crops; 19 percent performed post-harvest activities such as field packing, sorting, and grading; and 34 percent of workers performed technical production tasks such as pruning, irrigating, and operating machinery. Workers employed by farm labor contractors and migrant workers were twice as likely as directly-hired workers and settled workers to perform harvest tasks (45% and 42% compared to 21%, respectively) while directly-hired and settled crop workers were nearly twice as likely as labor-contracted and migrant crop workers to perform post-harvest tasks (20% compared to 11% and 12%, respectively). Directly-hired workers and settled workers were also more likely than contracted workers and migrant workers to perform technical production tasks (35% compared to 27% and 29% respectively). See figure 5.2.

**Figure 5.2: Primary Task at Time of Interview, 2017–2018**

Primary Task at Time of Interview	All Farmworkers	Employed by Grower	Employed by Farm		
			Labor Contractor	Migrant Farmworkers	Settled Farmworkers
<b>Pre-harvest</b>	23%	24%	18% <sup>a</sup>	17%	24%
<b>Harvest</b>	24%	21%	45%	42%	21%
<b>Post-harvest</b>	19%	20%	11% <sup>a</sup>	12%	20%
<b>Technical Production</b>	34%	35%	27%	29%	35%

<sup>a</sup> Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 percent to 50 percent.

### ***Basis for Pay and Hours Worked***

The majority of farmworkers in 2017–2018 reported that their basis for pay was an hourly wage (84%). Four percent of workers were paid a salary, 11 percent were paid exclusively by the piece.

Respondents worked an average of 45 hours in the previous week at their current farm job. Agricultural employers' labor needs 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 2017–2018 reported working an average of 54 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 43 hours of work the previous week (figure 5.3). Workers who performed pre-harvest, harvest, and technical tasks related to field crops worked the highest number of hours the previous week; 48, 54, and 53 for pre-harvest, harvest, and technical tasks, respectively.

**Figure 5.3: Average Number of Hours Worked in Week Prior to Interview by Crop and Task at Time of Interview, 2017–2018**

Crop	Pre-Harvest Tasks	Harvest Tasks	Post-Harvest Tasks	Technical Production Tasks
<b>Field Crops</b>	48	54	47	53
<b>Fruit and Nut Crops</b>	43	44	48	47
<b>Horticulture</b>	43	47	43	41
<b>Vegetable Crops</b>	42	44	43	46
<b>Miscellaneous/ Multiple</b>	47	42	44	47

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 14 to 17 reported the fewest hours (an average of 36), and workers ages 35 to 44 reported the most hours (an average of 47). Males reported working an average of 47 hours in the previous week, and females reported an average of 41 hours. Crop workers with fewer than 2 years of experience reported the fewest hours of work the previous week (an average of 37), while those with 21 to 30 years of experience reported the most hours (an average of 50). Farmworkers paid a salary reported the greatest number of hours the previous week (an average of 50). Workers paid by the piece averaged 45 hours, those paid by the hour averaged 45 hours, and those paid a combination of hourly wage and piece rate averaged 45 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, 2017–2018**

Farmworker Characteristic	Average Number of Hours Worked in Week Prior to Interview
<b>14-17 years old</b>	36
<b>18-21 years old</b>	40
<b>22-24 years old</b>	45
<b>25-34 years old</b>	46
<b>35-44 years old</b>	47
<b>45-50 years old</b>	46

Farmworker Characteristic	Average Number of Hours Worked in Week Prior to Interview
<b>51-54 years old</b>	45
<b>55-64 years old</b>	45
<b>65 or more years old</b>	38
<b>Male</b>	47
<b>Female</b>	41
<b>Less than 2 years of farm work experience</b>	37
<b>2-4 years farm work experience</b>	43
<b>5-10 years farm work experience</b>	45
<b>11-20 years farm work experience</b>	46
<b>21-30 years farm work experience</b>	50
<b>31 or more years farm work experience</b>	46
<b>Paid by the hour</b>	45
<b>Paid by the piece</b>	45
<b>Paid combination hourly wage and piece rate</b>	45
<b>Paid salary or other</b>	50

### **Wages**

When asked how much they were earning per hour at their current farm job, farmworkers in 2017–2018 reported an average of \$12.32.<sup>45</sup> Workers who were being paid by the hour earned an average hourly wage of \$11.72, and those being paid by the piece earned an average of \$15.76 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 \$11.84 per hour, those working for their current employer 3 to 5 years earned an average of \$11.83 per hour, and those working for their current employer 6 to 10 years earned an average of \$12.54 per hour. Workers who had worked for their current employer 11 years or more earned the highest hourly wage, an average of \$13.19 per 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, \$13.25. Pre-harvest workers earned an average of \$11.63 per hour, post-harvest workers earned an average of \$11.86 per hour, and those who worked in technical production tasks earned an average of \$12.41 per hour (figure 5.5).

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<sup>45</sup> Piece rate and combination wages were converted to an hourly wage, then averaged with the wages of workers who were paid by the hour.

**Figure 5.5: Average Hourly Wage by Farmworker Characteristic, 2017–2018**

Farmworker Characteristic	Average Hourly Wage
All farmworkers	\$12.32
Paid by the hour	\$11.72
Paid by the piece	\$15.76
Paid combination hourly wage and piece rate	\$15.17 <sup>a</sup>
Salary or Other	\$17.51
With current employer 1 to 2 years	\$11.84
With current employer 3 to 5 years	\$11.83
With current employer 6 to 10 years	\$12.54
With current employer 11 or more years	\$13.19
Performed pre-harvest tasks at time of interview	\$11.63
Performed harvest tasks at time of interview	\$13.25
Performed post-harvest tasks at time of interview	\$11.86
Performed technical production tasks at time of interview	\$12.41

<sup>a</sup> Less than one percent of farmworkers reported being paid a combination hourly wage and piece rate at their current farm job.

### **Monetary Bonuses**

In 2017–2018, 35 percent of farmworkers reported receiving a cash bonus from their current farm employer as part of their compensation package, 56 percent said they received no cash bonus, and 9 percent did not know. Workers who reported being paid a bonus were asked to identify all the types of bonuses they received. Fifty-five percent said they received a holiday bonus, 23 percent received an end-of-season bonus, 17 percent received an incentive award, and 6 percent received a bonus contingent upon grower profits (figure 5.6).

**Figure 5.6: Types of Cash Bonuses Farmworkers Received, 2017–2018**

Type of Bonus Received <sup>a</sup>	Percent of Farmworkers
Holiday bonus	55%
End-of-season bonus	23%
Incentive bonus	17%
Bonus dependent on grower profit	6%
Other type of bonus	3% <sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Among workers who reported being paid a bonus. Multiple responses were allowed.

<sup>b</sup> Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 percent to 50 percent.

### **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 percent of farmworkers in 2017–2018 reported that they were provided with drinking water and disposable cups every day, and 6 percent said they were provided water only. A notable share of



workers said that their employer provided no water and no cups (4%). 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 2017–2018, 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. Fifty-five percent of farmworkers interviewed in 2017–2018 said “yes,” 41 percent said “no,” and 4 percent did not know.<sup>46</sup> 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 (83% and 6% respectively). Of the 41 percent of respondents who reported that they would not be covered by UI, 92 percent were unauthorized and would not qualify for the benefit were it provided.

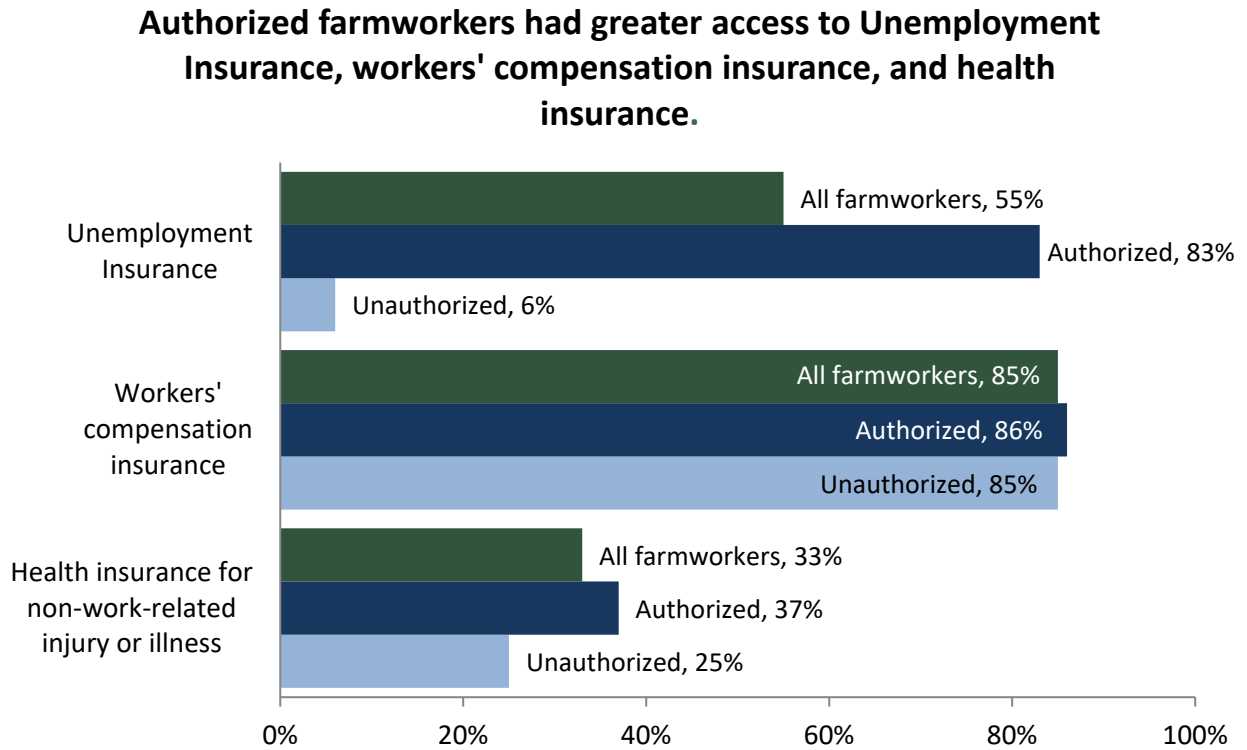
When asked whether they would receive workers’ compensation if they were injured at work or got sick as a result of their work, approximately 8 in 10 farmworkers said “yes” (85%), 5 percent said “no,” and 10 percent did not know.<sup>47</sup> Furthermore, when asked whether their employer provided health 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), 33 percent confirmed that their employer offered such a benefit, 59 percent said their employer did not, and 8 percent were unsure. Authorized workers were as likely as unauthorized workers to report that they were covered by workers’ compensation insurance (86% and 85% 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 (37% and 25% respectively). See figure 5.7. A discussion of farmworkers’ participation in health insurance coverage for themselves and their family members can be found in Chapter 9.

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<sup>46</sup> 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/uilawcompar/2017/complete.pdf>, p. 1-2).

<sup>47</sup>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 5.7: Percent of Farmworkers Whose Employer Offers Health Insurance, 2017–2018



## CHAPTER 6: Employment Experience

### Summary of Findings:

- Eighty-one percent of farmworkers worked for 1 farm employer in the previous 12 months. Crop workers had been employed with their current farm employer for an average of 8 years.
- Farmworkers worked an average of 35 weeks in the previous 12 months.
- Farmworkers worked an average of four days per week for their current employer and an average of 198 days in farm work in the previous 12 months.
- Farmworkers with a full year or more of farm work experience had an average of 19 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 (80%) expected to continue doing farm work for at least 5 years.

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

Farmworkers in 2017–2018 worked for an average of 1 U.S. farm employer<sup>48</sup> in the 12 months prior to being interviewed. Eighty-one percent of workers reported having worked for only 1 farm employer, 12 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 (28% compared to 14%), and migrant workers were more than twice as likely as settled workers to have had more than 1 farm employer in the previous 12 months (39% compared to 16%). See figure 6.1.

**Figure 6.1: Percentage Distribution of Number of Farm Work Employers in Previous 12 Months by Farmworker Characteristic, 2017–2018**

Number of Farm Employers	All Farmworkers	Migrant	Settled	Authorized	Unauthorized
<b>One</b>	81%	61%	84%	86%	73%
<b>Two</b>	12%	18%	12%	11%	15%
<b>Three or more</b>	6%	21%	4%	3%	13%

### Number of Years with Current Farm Employer

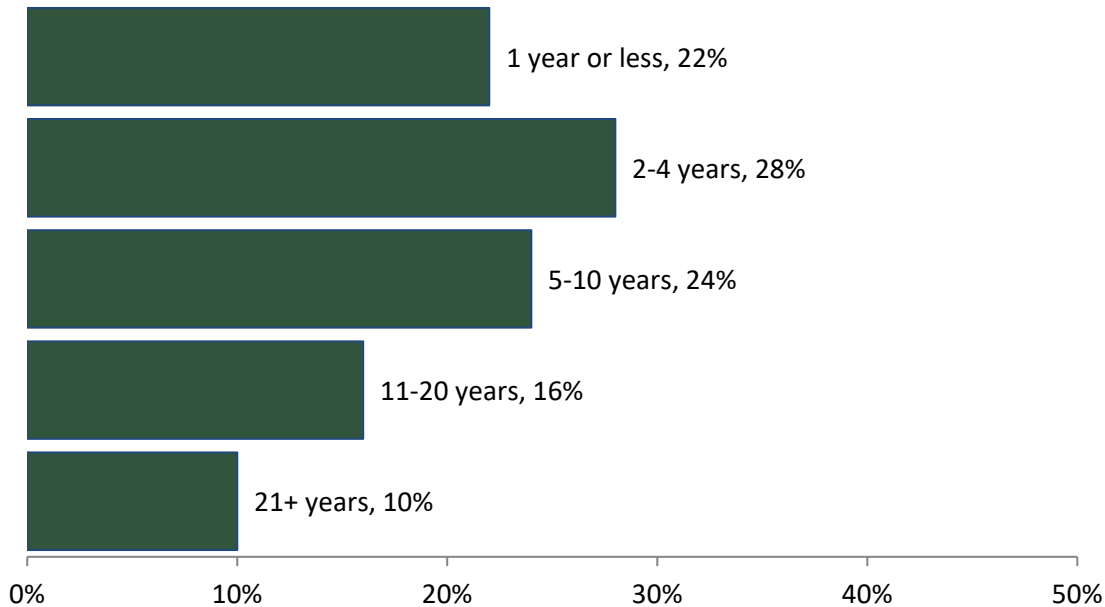
In 2017–2018, farmworkers reported working for their current farm employer for an average of eight years.<sup>49</sup> About 5 in 10 stated that they had been with their current employer for fewer than 5 years (50%), and more than 2 in 10 said that they had been with their current farm employer for 11 years or more (26%). See figure 6.2.

<sup>48</sup> 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.

<sup>49</sup> 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, 2017–2018**

**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 35 weeks (67% 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 32, 28, and 28 weeks respectively) than unauthorized workers, settled workers, and foreign-born workers (averages of 40, 36, and 38 weeks respectively). Youth farmworkers between the age of 14 and 17 were employed the fewest weeks in farm jobs, averaging 9 weeks of farm work in the previous 12 months, and workers aged 25 to 50 worked the most, averaging 37 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, 2017–2018**

Farmworker Characteristic	Average Weeks of Farm Work in Previous 12 Months
All farmworkers	35
Migrant	28
Settled	36
Authorized	32
Unauthorized	40
U.S.-born	28
Foreign-born	38
14-17 years old	9
18-24 years old	25
25-50 years old	37
Over 50 years old	36

For their employer at the time of interview, farmworkers reported working an average of four days per week (see figure 6.4). 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 over all the 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. Over the previous 12 months, respondents worked an average of 198 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 233 days and authorized workers an average of 178 days; settled workers averaged 203 days while migrant workers averaged 167 days; foreign-born workers worked an average of 220 days and U.S.-born workers an average of 151 days (figure 6.4).

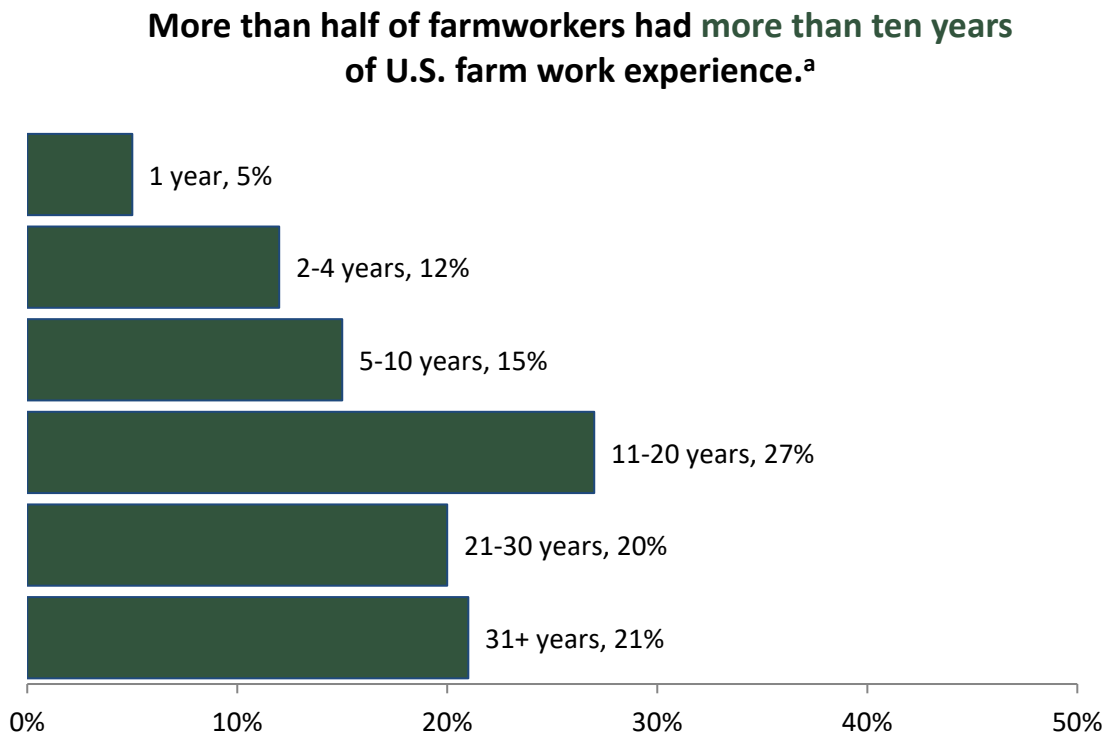
**Figure 6.4: Average Number of Days Worked Per Week at Current Farm Job and Average Number of Days of Farm Work in Previous 12 Months by Farmworker Characteristic, 2017–2018**

Farmworker Characteristic	Average Days Worked Per Week Current Farm Job	Average Days of Farm Work in Previous 12 Months
All farmworkers	4	198
Migrant	5	167
Settled	4	203
Authorized	4	178
Unauthorized	5	233
U.S.-born	4	151
Foreign-born	4	220

### Years of U.S. Farm Work Experience

Farmworkers with a full year or more of farm work experience had an average of 19 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 47 percent had worked 11 to 30 years in farm jobs, and 21 percent had worked more than 30 years in farm jobs (figure 6.5).

**Figure 6.5: Years U.S. Farm Work Experience, 2017–2018**



<sup>a</sup> Among workers with at least one year of U.S. farm work experience.

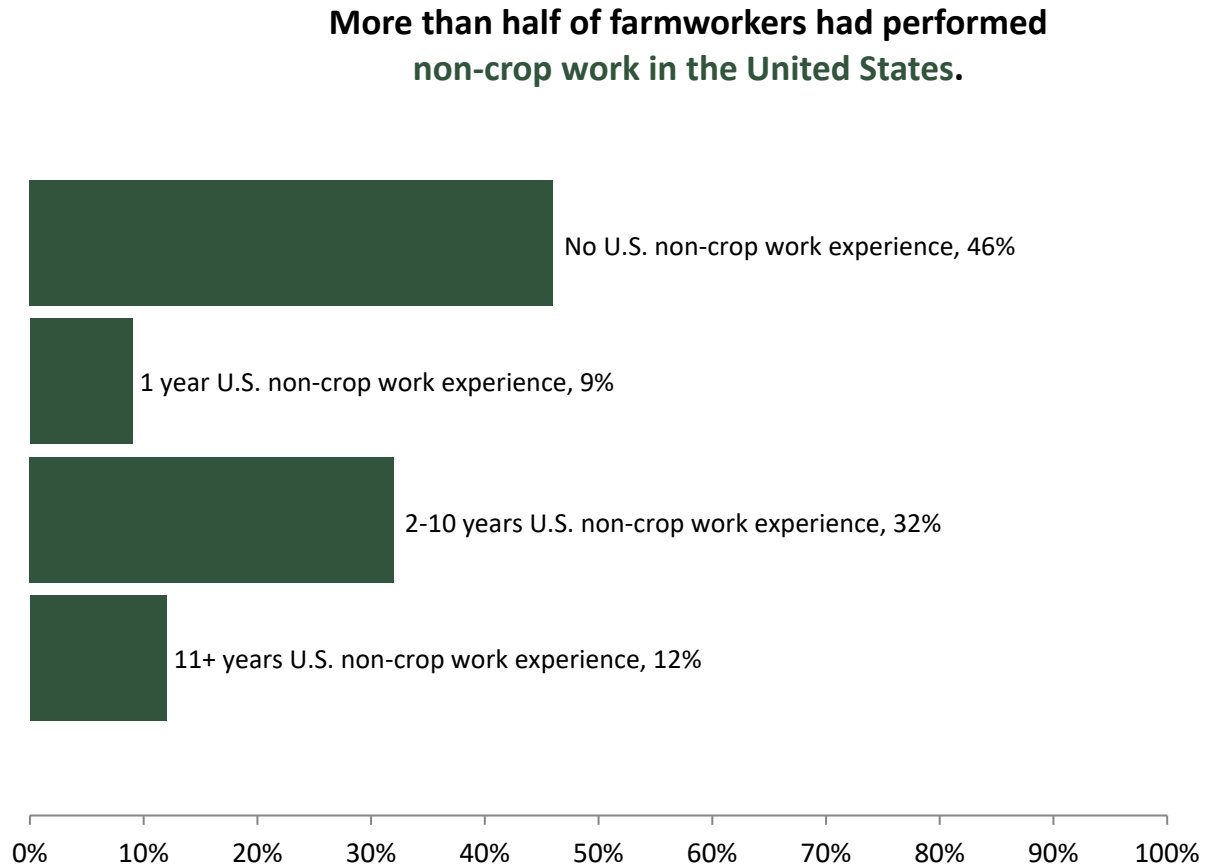
Large shares of crop workers with both few and many years of U.S. farm work experience were not authorized to work in the United States. Twenty-five percent of those with less than one year of experience were unauthorized as were 38 percent of those with 10 years or more of experience. Years of U.S. farm work experience and farm work days per year were positively correlated. Respondents who had between 1 and 5 years of farm work experience worked an average of 172 days in farm work in the previous 12 months, while those with 11 years or more of experience averaged 223 days of farm work.

### Other Work History

Farmworkers were asked to report the approximate number of years they had performed non-crop work in the United States. Fifty-four percent of farmworkers in 2017–2018 reported at least

1 year of non-crop work<sup>50</sup> (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, 2017–2018**



Farmworkers were also asked to indicate the last time their parents did hired farm work in the United States. Fifty-one percent of workers said “never,” 11 percent reported that their parents were doing U.S. farm work “now” or within the last year, 4 percent said their parents last did U.S. farm work 1 to 5 years ago, 4 percent said their parents last did U.S. farm work 6 to 10 years ago, and 29 percent reported that their parents last did U.S. farm work 11 or more years ago. U.S.-born farmworkers reported with much greater frequency than foreign-born farmworkers that their parents did hired farm work in the United States at some time (58% and 43% respectively). See figure 6.7.

<sup>50</sup> 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, 2017–2018**

Last Time Parents Did U.S. Farm Work	All		
	Farmworkers	U.S.-Born	Foreign-Born
<b>Never</b>	51%	41%	56%
<b>Now/within last year</b>	11%	16%	9%
<b>1 to 5 years ago</b>	4%	3%	4%
<b>6 to 10 years ago</b>	4%	3%	4%
<b>More than 10 years ago</b>	29%	36%	26%
<b>Don't know</b>	<1% <sup>a</sup>	b	b

<sup>a</sup> Estimates should be interpreted with caution because they have RSEs of 31 percent to 50 percent.

<sup>b</sup> Estimates are suppressed because number of responses is less than 4 or relative standard errors for the estimates are greater than 50%.

### ***Plans to Remain in Farm Work***

When asked how long they expected to continue to do farm work, 80 percent of workers interviewed in 2017–2018 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 (78%). Five percent of respondents stated that they would continue working in agriculture for less than one year, 10 percent planned to remain in farm work for 1 to 3 years, 4 percent stated that they would continue in farm work for 4 to 5 years, and 1 percent provided an opened ended “other” response. 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 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 who with educational attainment of 12<sup>th</sup> grade or less were more likely to plan to work for as long as they are able, while similar percentage of males and females reported they plan to work as long as they are able (figure 6.9). When looking at age group, 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 to compared to younger workers (figure 6.10).



**Figure 6.8: Plans to Remain in Farm Work by Place of Birth and Work Authorization, 2017–2018**

	All Farmworkers	U.S. Born	Foreign Born	Authorized	Unauthorized
<b>Less than one year</b>	5%	7%	3%	6%	2% <sup>a</sup>
<b>1-3 years</b>	10%	17%	7%	12%	7%
<b>4-5 years</b>	4%	6%	3%	4%	4%
<b>Over 5 years</b>	3%	4% <sup>a</sup>	2%	3%	3%
<b>Over 5 years/as long as I am able</b>	78%	65%	84%	74%	83%
<b>Other</b>	1%	2% <sup>a</sup>	1% <sup>a</sup>	1% <sup>a</sup>	<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Estimates should be interpreted with caution because they have RSEs of 31 percent to 50 percent.

<sup>b</sup> Estimates are suppressed because number of responses is less 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, 2017–2018**

	Settled	Migrant	Male	Female	12th grade or less	Beyond 12th grade
<b>Less than one year</b>	5%	5% <sup>a</sup>	4%	5% <sup>a</sup>	4%	5%
<b>1-3 years</b>	9%	19%	11%	10%	8%	14%
<b>4-5 years</b>	4%	5%	4%	3%	3%	5%
<b>Over 5 years</b>	3%	2% <sup>a</sup>	2%	3% <sup>a</sup>	2%	4% <sup>a</sup>
<b>Over 5 years/as long as I am able</b>	79%	67%	77%	78%	82%	71%
<b>Other</b>	1%	<sup>b</sup>	1% <sup>a</sup>	<sup>b</sup>	1% <sup>a</sup>	<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Estimates should be interpreted with caution because they have RSEs of 31 percent to 50 percent.

<sup>b</sup> Estimates are suppressed because number of responses is less 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, 2017–2018

Age groups	14-17	18-24	25-50	Over 50
<b>Less than one year</b>	34% <sup>a</sup>	14%	1% <sup>a</sup>	5% <sup>a</sup>
<b>1-3 years</b>	44%	30%	6%	8%
<b>4-5 years</b>	<sup>b</sup>	8% <sup>a</sup>	3%	3%
<b>Over 5 years</b>	0%	<sup>b</sup>	2%	4% <sup>a</sup>
<b>Over 5 years/as long as I am able</b>	<sup>b</sup>	44%	86%	80%
<b>Other</b>	<sup>b</sup>	<sup>b</sup>	1% <sup>a</sup>	<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Estimates should be interpreted with caution because they have RSEs of 31 percent to 50 percent.

<sup>b</sup> Estimates are suppressed because number of responses is less 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, farmworkers spent an average of 9 weeks living in the United States but not working and 2 weeks abroad.
- Thirty-one 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 non-crop agriculture jobs (41%) and mechanic, repair, or maintenance jobs (25%).
- 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 (70%), and these workers averaged 16 weeks without employment. Seventeen 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 lived in the United States but did not work for approximately 9 weeks (17% of the year) on average and were abroad for an average of 2 weeks (4% of the year). Number of weeks of not working and time spent abroad varied depending on workers' work authorization, migrant status, and place of birth. Unauthorized, migrant, and foreign-born farmworkers spent, on average, fewer weeks in the United States not working (6, 7, and 8 weeks respectively) than authorized, settled, and U.S.-born farmworkers (11, 10, and 12 weeks respectively). Migrant workers spent more than 10 times as much time abroad during the previous year (11 weeks) than settled farmworkers (<1 week).

Youth farmworkers between the ages of 14 and 17 had the greatest number of weeks not working while in the United States: 40, or more than three-quarters of the year. Respondents ages 18 to 24 spent an average of 15 weeks not working and 3 weeks<sup>51</sup> abroad, and respondents ages 25 years and older averaged 7 to 8 weeks in the United States not working and 1 to 2 weeks abroad (figure 7.1).

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<sup>51</sup> 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, 2017–2018**

Farmworker Characteristic	Weeks in United States and Not Working	Weeks Abroad
All farmworkers	9	2
Migrant	7	11
Settled	10	<1
Authorized	11	2
Unauthorized	6	1
U.S.-born	12	<sup>b</sup>
Foreign-born	8	2
14-17 years old	40	0
18-24 years old	15	3 <sup>a</sup>
25-50 years old	8	1
Over 50 years old	7	2

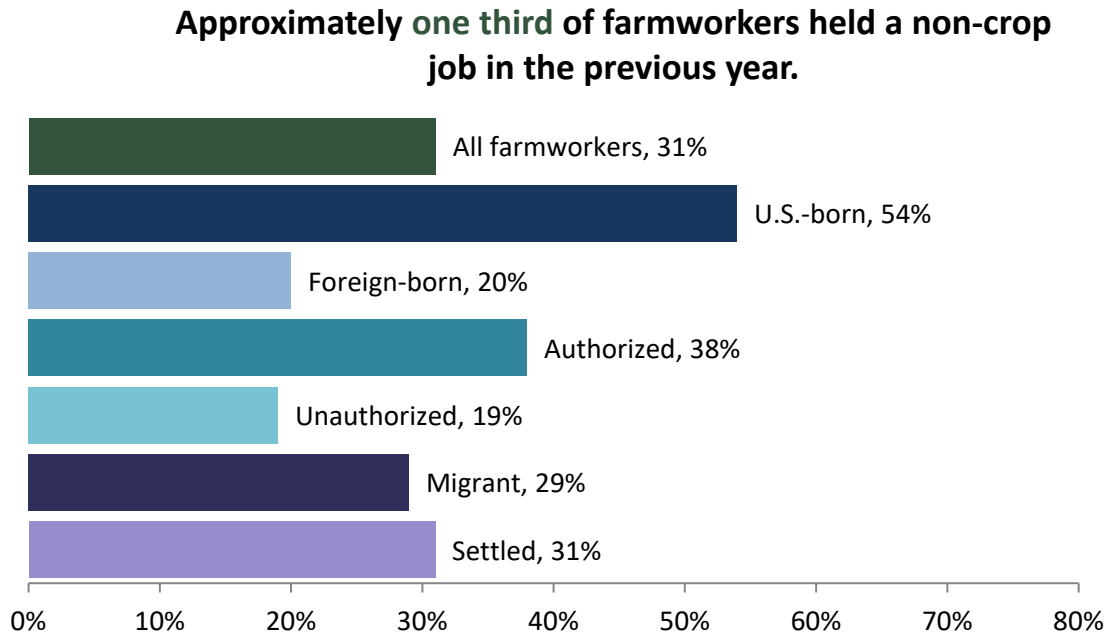
<sup>a</sup> Estimates should be interpreted with caution because they have RSEs of 31 percent to 50 percent.

<sup>b</sup> Estimate is suppressed because it has a RSE greater than 50 percent.

### ***Non-Crop Work in Previous 12 Months***

Thirty-one 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 nearly 3 times more likely than foreign-born workers to have had a non-crop job in the previous 12 months (54% compared to 20%), and authorized workers were twice as likely as unauthorized workers to have had a non-crop job (38% compared to 19%). See figure 7.2.

**Figure 7.2: Percent of Farmworkers Who Held a Non-Crop Job the Previous Year, 2017–2018**



The 31 percent of farmworkers who reported doing non-crop work during the previous year spent an average of 25 weeks in non-crop employment, and they held an average of 1 non-crop job. The most common types of non-crop jobs<sup>52</sup> were livestock, forestry and fisheries (41%), and mechanic, repair, or maintenance jobs (25%). Twelve percent did structural or extractive work,<sup>53</sup> 13 percent held a sales, service, or production job in the food industry, 8 percent held a sales, service, or manufacturing job in a non-food industry, 3 percent had a professional, technical, or managerial job, and 8 percent<sup>54</sup> held other types of jobs, including clerical, government service, health, arts and entertainment, and transportation (figure 7.3).

<sup>52</sup> Since the survey's inception, crop workers have been asked about jobs they've had outside of crop agriculture. Some non-crop jobs are farm jobs in other types of agriculture.

<sup>53</sup> 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>

<sup>54</sup> 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, 2017–2018**

Type of Non-Crop Job <sup>a</sup>	Percent of Workers Who Held At Least One Non-Crop Job
<b>Non-Crop Agriculture</b>	41%
<b>Mechanic/Repair/Maintenance</b>	25%
<b>Food Industry -- Sales/Service/Production</b>	13%
<b>Structural/Extractive Work</b>	12%
<b>Non-food Industry-- Sales/Service/Manufacturing</b>	8%
<b>Professional/Technical/Manager</b>	3%
<b>Other</b>	8% <sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Respondents may have reported multiple types of jobs.

<sup>b</sup> Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 percent to 50 percent.

### ***Reasons for Leaving Non-Crop Work in Previous Year***

Forty-four percent of workers who had non-crop employment during the previous year 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 separating from an employer, they were asked the reason why. Approximately 7 in 10 workers (66%) 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 (28%) said that their exits from non-crop work were involuntary in nature (“lay off/end of season” or “fired”).<sup>55</sup>

### ***Periods of Unemployment During the Year***

About 7 in 10 farmworker respondents in 2017–2018 reported at least 1 period in the 12 months prior to their interview during which they did not work (70%), and these respondents averaged 16 weeks without employment. Each time a respondent reported a period of not working during the 12-month retrospective work history, the respondent was asked about receiving UI benefits during that time. Seventeen percent of these respondents said “yes,” that they received UI benefits during at least one of their periods of unemployment.

<sup>55</sup> The remaining workers reported both voluntary and involuntary leaves from non-crop work, but this estimate is suppressed because it has a RSE greater than 50 percent.

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

### **Summary of Findings:**

- Farmworkers' mean and median personal incomes the previous year were in the range of \$20,000 to \$24,999. Eleven percent of workers earned less than \$10,000; 23 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. Twenty-two percent of farmworkers reported total family income of less than \$20,000, another 28 percent said their family income was \$20,000 to \$29,999, and 44 percent had a family income of \$30,000 or more.
- About one-fifth of farmworkers had family incomes below the poverty level (21%).
- Seventy-seven percent of farmworkers stated that they owned or were buying at least one asset in the United States. The most common assets listed were a vehicle (reported by 74% of workers) or a type of dwelling, such as a house, mobile home, condominium, or apartment (40% of workers).
- Eighteen percent of farmworkers reported that they or someone in their household received some form of benefit from a contribution-based program in the previous 2 years; 54 percent said someone in their household 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 2017–2018 reported that they did not work at all during the prior calendar year, 11 percent said their total personal income was less than \$10,000, 24 percent said they had personal incomes of \$10,000 to \$19,999, another 36 percent reported personal incomes of \$20,000 to \$29,999, and 23 percent reported that their total personal income was \$30,000 or more. One percent of farmworkers said they were unsure of what their personal income was the previous year.

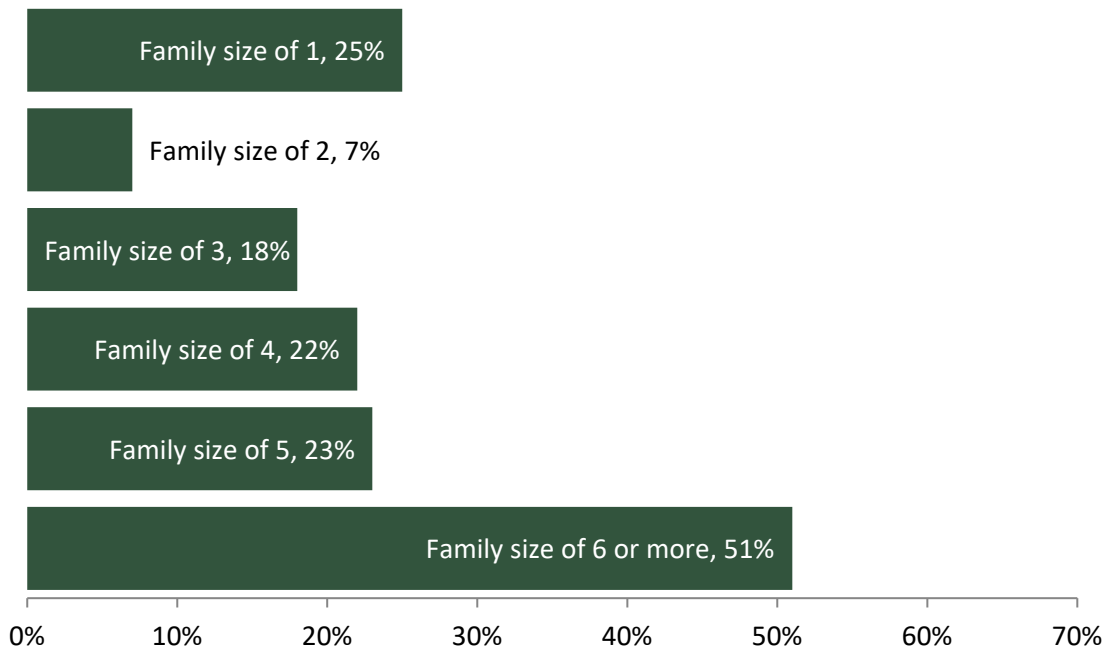
In addition to the question about personal income, workers were asked to report their total family income in the previous calendar year. For this question as well, respondents answered by indicating a range in which their income fell. Workers' mean and median total family incomes the previous year were in the range of \$25,000 to \$29,999. Four percent of farmworkers reported that they or their family had no earned income during the previous calendar year. Eight percent of workers said that their total family income the prior year was less than \$10,000, 14 percent said their family income was \$10,000 to \$19,999, 28 percent had a family income of \$20,000 to \$29,999, and 44 percent had a family income of \$30,000 or more. One percent of farmworkers reported that they did not know their family's total income the previous year.

To determine farmworkers’ poverty status, a poverty threshold was calculated for each worker based on the worker’s family size<sup>56</sup> and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ poverty guidelines<sup>57</sup> for the calendar year preceding the interview. The worker’s family income was then compared to this poverty threshold.<sup>58</sup> Using this method, 21 percent of farmworkers in 2017–2018 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). More than half of farmworkers with a family size of 6 or more had incomes below the poverty level (51%) compared to less than a quarter of farmworkers with a family size of 3 (18%) or 4 (22%). Farmworkers who are not living with their family (i.e., family size of one) also had elevated poverty rate (25%), compared to those with family sizes of 2–5. Likewise, migrant workers’ family incomes fell below poverty at a much greater rate than settled workers’ (31% compared to 20%), and unauthorized workers were more likely than authorized workers to have below-poverty household incomes (24% and 20% respectively). See figure 8.2.

**Figure 8.1: Percent of Farmworkers with Total Family Income Below Poverty Level by Family Size, 2017–2018**

**Larger families were more likely to have family incomes below the federal poverty level.**



<sup>56</sup> 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.

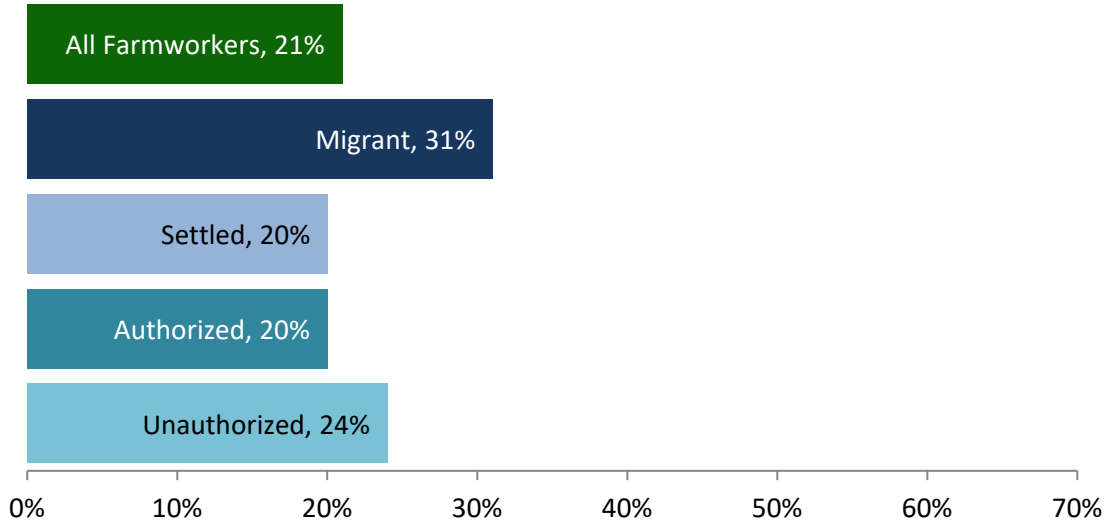
<sup>57</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services poverty guidelines (<https://aspe.hhs.gov/prior-hhs-poverty-guidelines-and-federal-register-references>).

<sup>58</sup> 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.”



**Figure 8.2: Percent of Farmworkers with Total Family Income Below Poverty Level by Farmworker Characteristic, 2017–2018**

**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 2017–2018, approximately three-quarters of all farmworkers stated that they owned or were buying at least one asset in the United States (77%). U.S.-born workers reported with about the same frequency that they owned or were buying an asset in the United States (78%) compared to foreign-born workers (77%). Among all workers, the most commonly held asset in the United States was a car or truck (74%) followed by a type of housing (40%). See figure 8.3. U.S.-born workers were more likely to own or be buying a type of housing in the United States (44%) than were foreign-born workers (38%).

**Figure 8.3: Assets in the United States, 2017–2018**

Type of Asset in the United States	Percent of Farmworkers
<b>Any asset</b>	77%
<b>A car or truck</b>	74%
<b>A type of housing (house, mobile home, condominium, apartment)</b>	40%

Fifteen percent of foreign-born workers reported that they owned or were buying at least one asset abroad. The most frequently reported was a house (25%), followed by land (14%) and a car or truck (2%).

**Use of Contribution- and Need-Based Programs**

In 2017–2018, 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 veteran’s pay. Eighteen percent of the farmworkers reported that someone in their household received a benefit from at least one contribution-based program. Thirteen percent of farmworkers reported that they or a family member received payments from UI, 3 percent reported that they or a family member received payments from disability insurance, and 2 percent said that someone in their household received Social Security payments.

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).<sup>59</sup> In 2017–2018, 54 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 utilized were Medicaid (43%), public health clinics (17%), SNAP (15%), and WIC (11%). 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, 2017–2018**

Contribution- and Need-Based Programs Utilized	Percent of Farmworkers
<b>Any contribution-based program</b>	18%
<b>UI</b>	13%
<b>Disability</b>	3%
<b>Social Security</b>	2%
<b>Any need-based program</b>	54%
<b>Medicaid</b>	43%
<b>Public health clinic</b>	17%
<b>SNAP</b>	15%
<b>WIC</b>	11%
<b>Welfare (general assistance) or TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)</b>	2% <sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Estimate should be interpreted with caution because it has a RSE of 31 percent to 50 percent.

<sup>59</sup> The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP used to be named The Federal Food Stamps Program before it was changed in October, 2008.

## CHAPTER 9: Health Care in the United States

### **Summary of Findings:**

- Fifty-six percent of farmworkers reported that they had health insurance, 66 percent said their spouse had health insurance, and 94 percent reported that all (92%) or at least some (2%<sup>60</sup>) of their children had health insurance.
- Seventy-one percent of farmworkers used a health care provider in the United States sometime in the last two years.
- The last time they visited a health care provider, 44 percent went to a private medical doctor's office or private clinic, 33 percent said they visited a community health center or migrant health clinic, 15 percent saw a dentist, 7 percent went to a hospital, and 2 percent visited other providers such as a healer, chiropractor, or emergency room.
- Approximately a quarter of farmworkers paid for their last health care visit out of their own pockets (26%): 20 percent were uninsured so they had to pay the whole fee, and 5 percent had insurance so their out-of-pocket expense was likely a co-payment.
- The most common difficulty farmworkers reported facing when they needed health care was that health care visits were too expensive (23%).

### **Health Insurance Coverage for Farmworkers and Family Members**

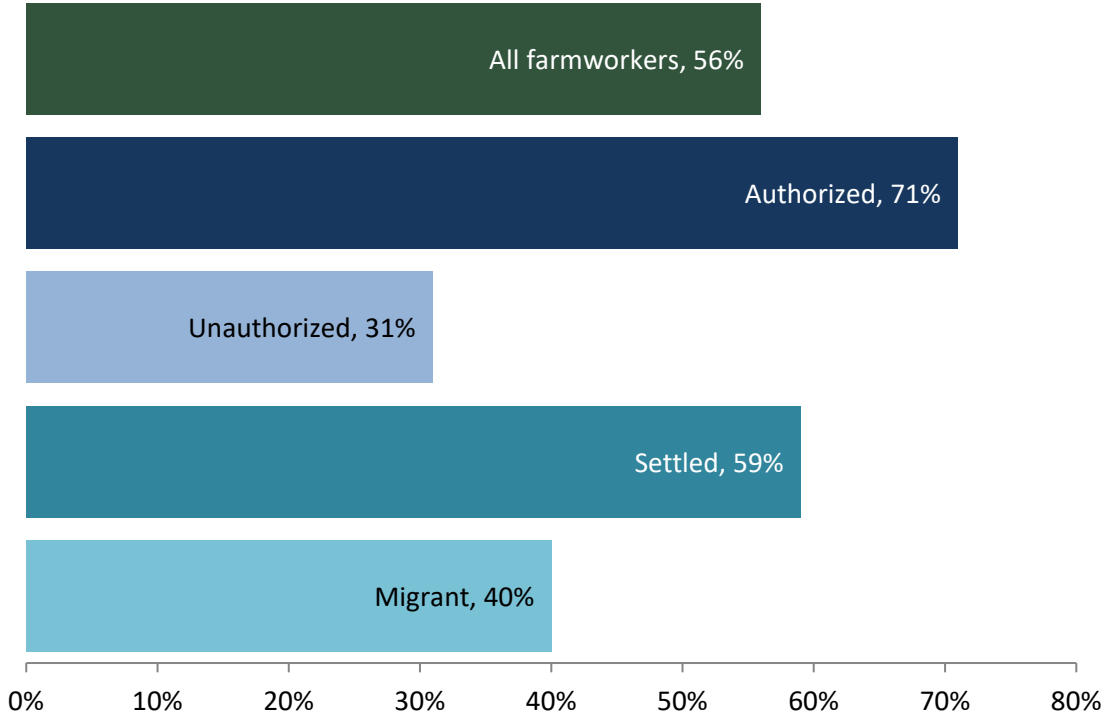
There were several questions on the survey about health insurance. One question asked workers to indicate who in their family had health insurance in the United States. Fifty-six percent of workers responded that they, themselves, had health insurance. Authorized workers and settled workers were much more likely to report having health insurance (71% and 59% respectively) than unauthorized workers and migrant workers (31% and 40% respectively). See figure 9.1.

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<sup>60</sup> 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, 2017–2018

Over half of farmworkers had health insurance.



Farmworkers who reported having health insurance were asked to identify the source(s) that provided it (multiple sources could be reported). Forty-one percent reported that they had insurance provided by the government, 30 percent said their employer provided them with health insurance, 10 percent said that they or their spouse paid for insurance themselves, 8 percent reported that they had insurance under their spouse’s employer’s plan, another 7 percent reported that they were covered by their parents’ or family’s plan, and 7 percent indicated some other source<sup>61</sup> (figure 9.2).

<sup>61</sup> “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, 2017–2018**

Source of Farmworker's Health Insurance <sup>a,b</sup>	Percent of Farmworkers
Farmworker's/Spouse's self-purchased plan	10%
Farmworker's employer	30%
Spouse's employer	8%
Government program	41%
Parent's/Family's plan	7%
Other	7%

<sup>a</sup> Among the 56 percent of farmworkers who reported that they had health insurance.

<sup>b</sup> Farmworkers may have health insurance through more than one source.

Of the 59 percent of farmworkers who had a spouse, 66 percent reported that their spouse had health insurance. Among spouses with health insurance, 46 percent received the insurance through a government program, 9 percent were covered by a self-purchased plan, 26 percent were insured through the spouse's employer, 15 percent were covered by the farmworker's employer plan, and 5 percent indicated some other source (figure 9.3). Authorized workers reported that their spouses had health insurance at more than twice the frequency of unauthorized workers (83% and 38% respectively).

**Figure 9.3: Sources of Farmworkers' Spouses' Health Insurance, 2017–2018**

Source of Spouse's Health Insurance <sup>a,b</sup>	Percent of Farmworkers
Farmworker's/Spouse's self-purchased plan	9%
Farmworker's employer	15%
Spouse's employer	26%
Government program	46%
Other	5%

<sup>a</sup> Among the 59 percent of farmworkers who reported that their spouse had health insurance.

<sup>b</sup> Spouses may have health insurance through more than one source.

Among the 45 percent of farmworkers with minor children, a large majority reported that all of their children had health insurance (92%) while 2 percent<sup>62</sup> 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 (82%). Thirteen percent of the workers reported that their children were insured through their employer or their spouse's employer, and 4 percent said their children were covered by insurance that the worker and/or their spouse purchased on their own (figure 9.4). Nearly equal percentages of authorized and unauthorized workers reported that all or some of their children had health insurance (95% and 91% respectively).

<sup>62</sup> 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, 2017–2018**

Source of Children's Health Insurance <sup>a,b</sup>	Percent of Farmworkers
Farmworker's/Spouse's self-purchased plan	4%
Farmworker's/Spouse's employer	13%
Government program	82%
Other	2%

<sup>a</sup> Among the 94 percent of farmworkers who reported that all or some of their children had health insurance.

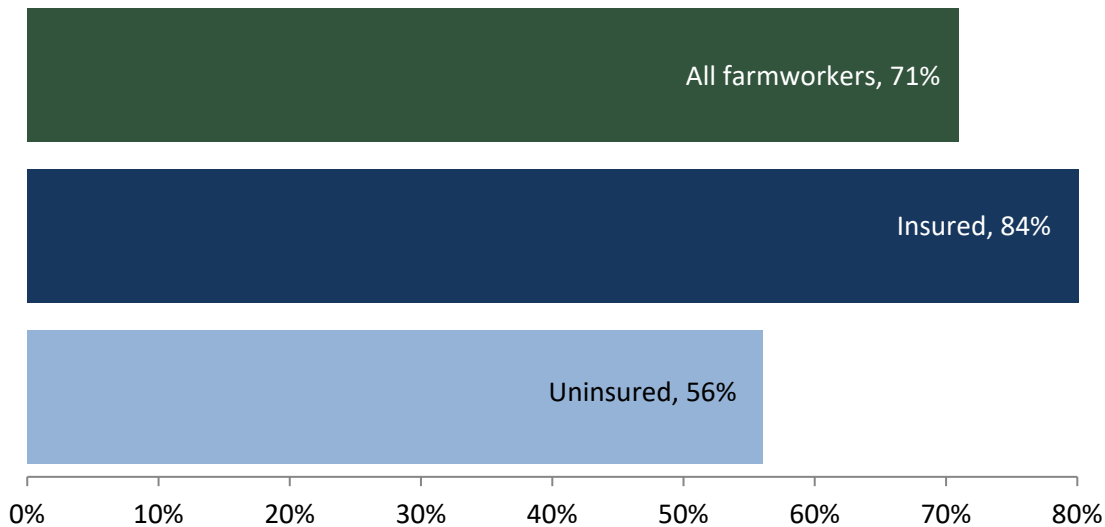
<sup>b</sup> Children may have health insurance through more than one source.

**Health Care Utilization and Barriers to Health Care**

In 2017–2018 farmworkers were asked whether, at any time in the 2 years prior to being interviewed, they had used any type of health care services from doctors, nurses, dentists, clinics, or hospitals in the United States. Seventy-one percent of farmworkers responded that they had. Workers who had health insurance reported more frequently that they utilized health care services (84%) than did workers who did not have health insurance (56%). See figure 9.5.

**Figure 9.5: Visited a U.S. Health Care Provider in the Last Two Years by Health Insurance Status, 2017–2018**

**More than two-thirds of farmworkers visited a U.S. health care provider in the last two years.**

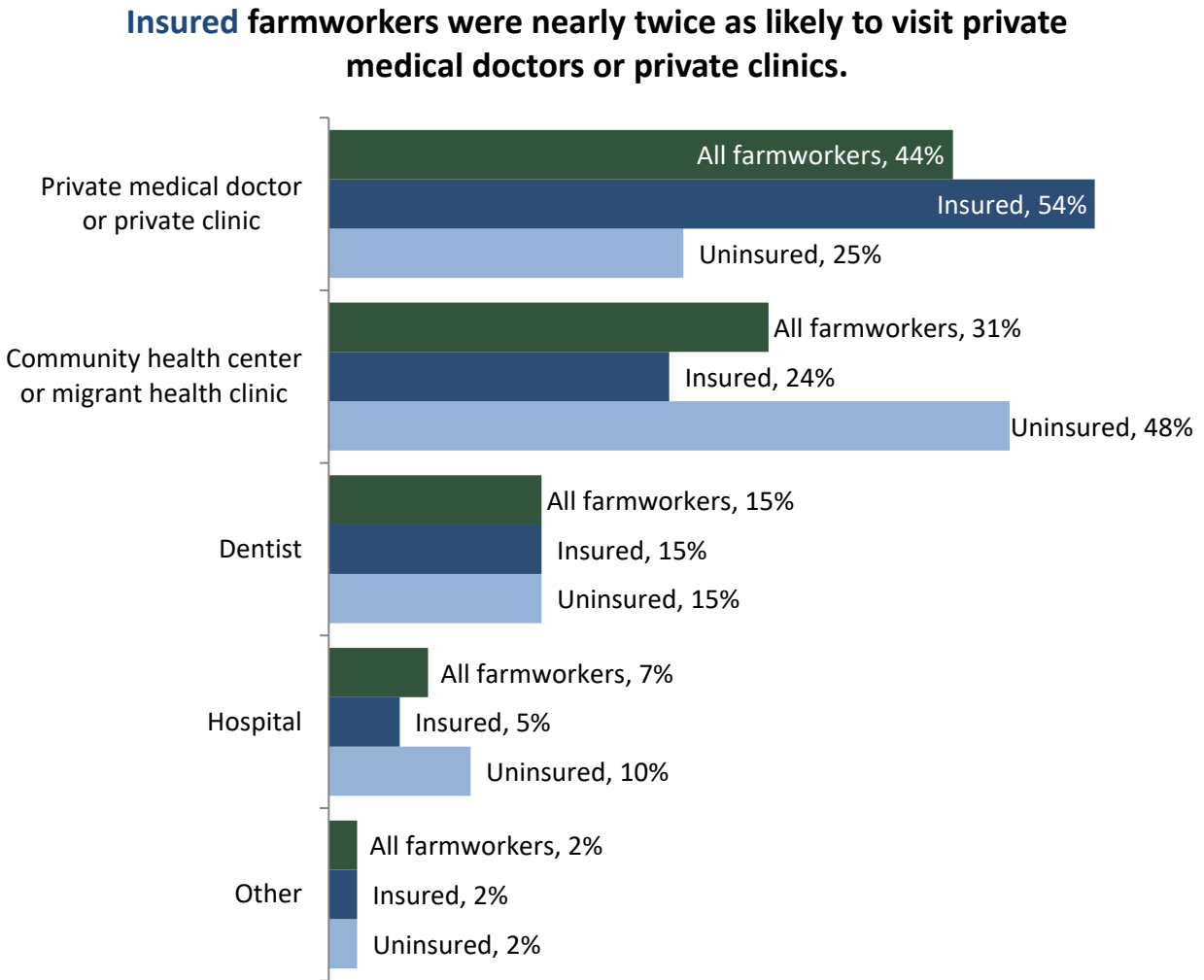


Farmworkers who reported seeking health care in the United States sometime in the last two years were asked what kind of health care provider they used the last time they saw one. Forty-four percent of workers who had a health care visit said that the last time they used a provider they went to a private medical doctor's office or private clinic. Thirty-one percent said they visited a community health center or migrant health clinic, 15 percent saw a dentist, and 7

percent went to a hospital. The remaining 2 percent of workers reportedly used another type of provider, including a healer or “curandero,” an emergency room, a chiropractor, or a naturopath.

The type of health care provider visited depended on farmworkers’ health insurance status. Insured workers were more likely than uninsured workers to visit a private provider (54% compared to 25%) and less likely to visit a community health center or migrant health clinic (25% of insured workers compared to 48% of uninsured workers). See figure 9.6.

**Figure 9.6: Type of U.S. Health Care Provider Visited by Health Insurance Status, 2017–2018**



*Note:* For the “Other” category, the estimates for insured and uninsured should be interpreted with caution because they have RSEs of 31 percent to 50 percent.

Farmworkers who reported seeking health care in the United States sometime in the last two years were also asked who paid most of the cost for their last health care visit. Twenty-six percent of workers responded that they paid out of their own pockets: 20 percent were uninsured, so they had to pay the fee in whole out of pocket; 5 percent had insurance, so their out-of-pocket

expense was likely a co-payment. Twenty-four percent said that they had Medicaid or Medicare, 16 percent said the majority of the cost was covered by health insurance that they or their family had purchased themselves, and 15 percent of workers reported that the cost was covered by health insurance provided by their employer. Eleven percent of the workers stated that they went to a public clinic that did not charge for the visit, and 2 percent reported that they used some combination of sources to pay, they were covered by worker's compensation, or that they were billed for service but did not pay. The remaining 6 percent provided a variety of other responses.<sup>63</sup>

Regardless of whether they reported having used a U.S. health care provider sometime in the last two years, farmworkers were asked to name the types of difficulties they faced when they needed to access health care in the United States. The most common response, provided by 23 percent of all farmworkers interviewed in 2017–2018, was that health care visits were too expensive or that they had no insurance to cover the costs. Nine percent of the workers were unable to name any specific barriers because they reported they had never needed health care in the United States.

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<sup>63</sup> Farmworkers who responded with “other” when asked who paid the majority of the cost for their last health care visit specified their response in the following ways: low income program; insurance through a former employer, other employer, labor union, or pension plan; automobile insurance; coverage through the ACA; medical coupon; military insurance or the VA; and medical insurance with no specification about whether it was self-purchased or employer provided.



## APPENDIX A: Methodology

### **Overview**

The NAWS data come from a nationally representative, random sample of crop farmworkers. During 2017–2018, 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 497 Farm Labor Areas (FLA). FLAs were single- or multi-county sampling units which 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 the seasonality of the industry, 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 Agricultural Labor Survey (ALS). 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 ALS and QCEW.

### **Sampling within Strata**

#### **Farm Labor Areas**

Each region was composed of several single- or multi-county sampling units called FLAs. There were 497 FLAs that form a universe from which sampling locations were selected. FLAs are aggregates of counties that have similar farm labor usage and are roughly similar in size. 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 a 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 the 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.

When 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 who were 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 level.
- 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.doleta.gov/naws/methodology/docs/NAWS\\_Statistical\\_Methods\\_AKA\\_Supporting\\_Statement\\_Part\\_B.pdf](https://www.doleta.gov/naws/methodology/docs/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.<sup>64</sup>

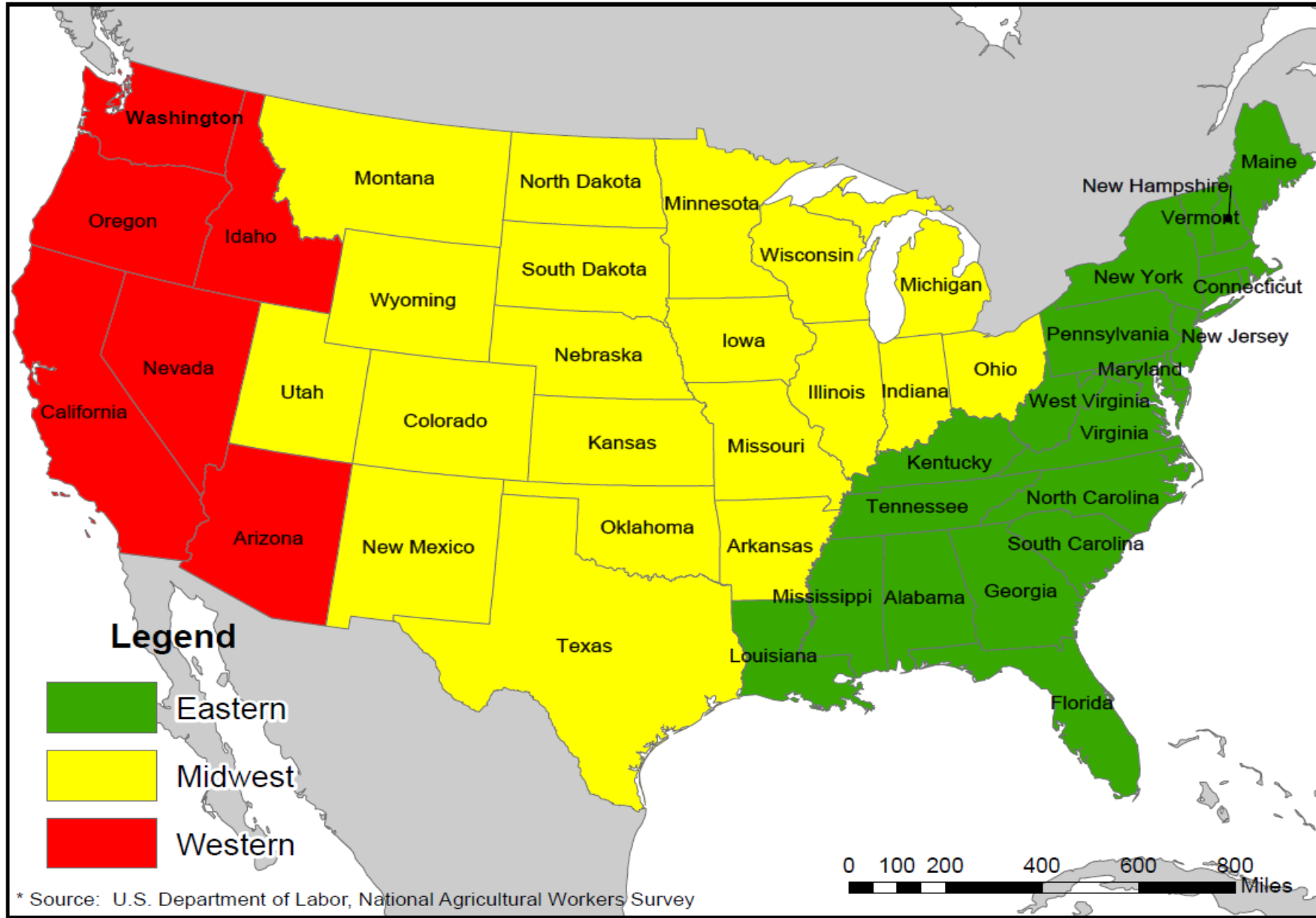
For the purpose of reporting data, the NAWS has adopted the following data suppression rules.

- 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.

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<sup>64</sup> Sommer, J. E., Green, R., and Korb, P (1998). *Structural and Financial Characteristics of U.S. Farms, 1995: 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Farm Report to Congress* ([https://www.ers.usda.gov/webdocs/publications/42178/32556\\_aib746\\_002.pdf?v=42487](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 higher 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 superscript ‘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	665	32%	2.7%	27%	37%	8%
A07	Country of birth	Mexico	1,795	64%	2.7%	59%	70%	4%
A07	Country of birth	Central America	100	3%	0.8%	2%	5%	25%
A07	Country of birth	Other (South America, Caribbean, South East Asia, Pacific Islands, Asia)	26	1% <sup>a</sup>	0.2%	0%	1%	36%
HISP	Hispanic	Hispanic	2,080	77%	2.7%	72%	82%	3%
B01	Hispanic category	Mexican-American	247	11%	1.7%	8%	15%	16%
B01	Hispanic category	Mexican	1,681	61%	2.6%	56%	66%	4%
B01	Hispanic category	Chicano, Puerto Rican, or other Hispanic	152	5%	0.9%	3%	7%	18%
B01	Hispanic category	Not Hispanic or Latino	501	23%	2.7%	18%	28%	12%
B02	Race	White	777	32%	2.8%	26%	37%	9%
B02	Race	Black/African American	69	3% <sup>a</sup>	0.9%	1%	5%	33%
B02	Race	American Indian/Alaska Native	5	b	b	b	b	80%
B02	Race	Other	1,731	65%	3.0%	59%	71%	5%
B02	Race	Refused to answer	2	b	b	b	b	75%
INDIGENOUS	Farmworker is indigenous	Farmworker is indigenous	165	6%	1.1%	4%	8%	18%

**Appendix C: Index of Percentages and Means for Key Variables**

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Variable Description</b>	<b>Variable Level(s)</b>	<b>Number of Observations</b>	<b>Estimate (Percentage or Mean)</b>	<b>Standard Error</b>	<b>95% Lower Confidence Limit</b>	<b>95% Upper Confidence Limit</b>	<b>Relative Standard Error</b>
USSTAY	Years in US	Average	1,917	22	0.48	21	23	2%
USSTAY	Years in US	Less than 1 year (newcomer)	11	1% <sup>a</sup>	0.4%	0%	2%	39%
USSTAY	Years in US	1-4 years	117	6%	0.7%	5%	8%	12%
USSTAY	Years in US	5-9 years	121	5%	0.8%	4%	7%	15%
USSTAY	Years in US	10-14 years	289	17%	1.6%	14%	20%	9%
USSTAY	Years in US	15-19 years	370	18%	1.4%	16%	21%	8%
USSTAY	Years in US	20-29 years	490	26%	2.0%	22%	30%	8%
USSTAY	Years in US	30-39 years	365	18%	1.8%	14%	22%	10%
USSTAY	Years in US	40+ years	154	8%	1.2%	6%	10%	15%
B18 (by A07)	State of birth (by country of birth)	Baja California (among country of birth is Mexico)	127	6%	1.2%	3.8%	8.5%	19%
B18 (by A07)	State of birth (by country of birth)	Guanajuato (among country of birth is Mexico)	243	10%	1.1%	8%	12%	11%
B18 (by A07)	State of birth (by country of birth)	Guerrero (among country of birth is Mexico)	98	5%	0.9%	3%	7%	18%
B18 (by A07)	State of birth (by country of birth)	Jalisco (among country of birth is Mexico)	160	10%	1.5%	7%	13%	15%
B18 (by A07)	State of birth (by country of birth)	Michoacán (among country of birth is Mexico)	390	27%	3.0%	21%	33%	11%
B18 (by A07)	State of birth (by country of birth)	Oaxaca (among country of birth is Mexico)	189	10%	2.1%	6%	14%	21%
CURRSTAT	Current work authorization	Citizen	848	38%	2.6%	33%	43%	7%
CURRSTAT	Current work authorization	Legal permanent resident	585	24%	2.3%	19%	28%	10%
CURRSTAT	Current work authorization	Other work authorized	35	2%	0.5%	<1%	3%	32%
CURRSTAT	Current work authorization	Unauthorized	1,091	37%	2.6%	32%	42%	7%
MIGRANT	Migrant	Migrant	316	13%	1.6%	10%	17%	12%

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	1,928	69%	3.1%	63%	75%	4%
GENDER	Gender	Female	658	31%	3.1%	25%	37%	10%
AGE	Age	Average	2,582	41	0.56	40	42	1%
AGE	Age	14-19	85	6%	0.9%	4%	8%	15%
AGE	Age	20-24	187	8%	1.0%	6%	10%	12%
AGE	Age	25-34	618	21%	1.4%	19%	24%	7%
AGE	Age	35-44	604	23%	1.8%	19%	26%	8%
AGE	Age	45-54	595	24%	1.6%	21%	27%	7%
AGE	Age	55-64	380	14%	1.4%	11%	17%	10%
AGE	Age	65 and over	112	4%	0.7%	3%	5%	17%
MARRIED, FWPARENT	Farmworker is married, Farmworker is a parent	Married, parent	1,114	39%	1.4%	36%	42%	4%
MARRIED, FWPARENT	Farmworker is married, Farmworker is a parent	Married, no children	490	18%	1.4%	15%	21%	8%
MARRIED, FWPARENT	Farmworker is married, Farmworker is a parent	Unmarried, parent	264	11%	1.0%	9%	13%	9%
MARRIED, FWPARENT	Farmworker is married, Farmworker is a parent	Unmarried, no children	716	32%	1.9%	28%	35%	6%

**Appendix C: Index of Percentages and Means for Key Variables**

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Variable Description</b>	<b>Variable Level(s)</b>	<b>Number of Observations</b>	<b>Estimate (Percentage or Mean)</b>	<b>Standard Error</b>	<b>95% Lower Confidence Limit</b>	<b>95% Upper Confidence Limit</b>	<b>Relative Standard Error</b>
HKIDLT18 (by FWPARENT)	Number of children under age 18 in the household (by farmworker is a parent)	Average (among farmworker parents)	1,121	2	0.05%	2	2	2%
HKIDLT18 (by FWPARENT)	Number of children under age 18 in the household (by farmworker is a parent)	1 child (among farmworker parents)	367	32%	2.8%	27%	38%	9%
HKIDLT18 (by FWPARENT)	Number of children under age 18 in the household (by farmworker is a parent)	2 children (among farmworker parents)	379	36%	2.7%	30%	41%	8%
HKIDLT18 (by FWPARENT)	Number of children under age 18 in the household (by farmworker is a parent)	3 children (among farmworker parents)	246	21%	1.7%	17%	24%	8%
HKIDLT18 (by FWPARENT)	Number of children under age 18 in the household (by farmworker is a parent)	4 children (among farmworker parents)	101	9%	1.4%	6%	12%	16%
HKIDLT18 (by FWPARENT)	Number of children under age 18 in the household (by farmworker is a parent)	5 or more children (among farmworker parents)	28	2%	0.6%	1%	4%	26%
ACCOMP	Nuclear family lives in household	Unaccompanied	901	38%	2.1%	34%	42%	5%
ACCOMP	Nuclear family lives in household	Accompanied	1,685	62%	2.1%	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
PRIMLANG	Adult primary language (2017)	English	306	33%	4.1%	24%	41%	13%
PRIMLANG	Adult primary language (2017)	Spanish	891	64%	4.1%	56%	72%	6%
PRIMLANG	Adult primary language (2017)	Indigenous	32	3% <sup>a</sup>	1.4%	1%	6%	40%
PRIMLANG18	Adult primary language (2018)	English	300	27%	3.9%	19%	34%	19%
PRIMLANG18	Adult primary language (2018)	Spanish	939	65%	3.2%	59%	72%	59%
PRIMLANG18	Adult primary language (2018)	Indigenous	17	1% <sup>a</sup>	0.6%	<1%	2%	0%
PRIMLANG18	Adult primary language (2018)	Other	8	0% <sup>a</sup>	0.1%	<1%	0%	0%
PRIMLANG18	Adult primary language (2018)	Bilingual Spanish/English	51	6% <sup>a</sup>	1.8%	2%	9%	2%
PRIMLANG18	Adult primary language (2018)	More than one language	13	1% <sup>a</sup>	0.4%	<1%	2%	0%
HIGHGRDE	Highest grade completed	Average	2,585	9	0.17	8	9	2%
HIGHGRDE	Highest grade completed	No schooling	87	2%	0.5%	1%	3%	20%
HIGHGRDE	Highest grade completed	K-6 <sup>th</sup> grade	985	35%	1.7%	32%	39%	5%
HIGHGRDE	Highest grade completed	7 <sup>th</sup> -9 <sup>th</sup> grade	522	18%	1.4%	16%	21%	8%
HIGHGRDE	Highest grade completed	10 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grade	718	31%	1.8%	28%	35%	6%
HIGHGRDE	Highest grade completed	13 grades or more	272	12%	1.6%	9%	16%	13%
ADULTED	Attended any adult education	No	1,975	76%	2.2%	71%	80%	3%
ADULTED	Attended any adult education	Yes	611	24%	2.2%	20%	29%	9%
B03ax	Attended English/ESL	Yes	180	13%	1.8%	9%	17%	14%
B03bx	Attended citizenship classes	Yes	43	3% <sup>a</sup>	0.9%	1%	5%	34%
B03dx	Attended job training	Yes	387	30%	3.6%	23%	37%	12%
B03ex	Attended GED, high school equivalency	Yes	31	4%	0.9%	2%	6%	27%
B03fx	Attended college/university	Yes	66	6%	1.3%	3%	8%	21%
B03jx	Attended 'other'	Yes	49	4%	0.9%	3%	6%	20%

**Appendix C: Index of Percentages and Means for Key Variables**

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Variable Description</b>	<b>Variable Level(s)</b>	<b>Number of Observations</b>	<b>Estimate (Percentage or Mean)</b>	<b>Standard Error</b>	<b>95% Lower Confidence Limit</b>	<b>95% Upper Confidence Limit</b>	<b>Relative Standard Error</b>
B07	Ability to speak English	Not at all	651	23%	1.6%	19%	26%	7%
B07	Ability to speak English	A little	777	28%	2.0%	24%	32%	7%
B07	Ability to speak English	Somewhat	385	13%	1.5%	10%	16%	12%
B07	Ability to speak English	Well	761	36%	2.7%	31%	42%	7%
B08	Ability to read English	Not at all	954	33%	2.0%	29%	37%	6%
B08	Ability to read English	A little	622	21%	1.6%	18%	25%	8%
B08	Ability to read English	Somewhat	251	11%	1.5%	8%	14%	14%
B08	Ability to read English	Well	746	35%	2.6%	30%	40%	7%
B22b	Ability to speak Spanish	Somewhat	31	3%	0.8%	0%	6%	27%
B22b	Ability to speak Spanish	Well	858	97%	0.8%	94%	100%	1%
B23b	Ability to read Spanish	Not at all	18	1%	0.3%	0%	2%	29%
B23b	Ability to read Spanish	A little	58	5%	1.0%	2%	8%	19%
B23b	Ability to read Spanish	Somewhat	126	16%	1.6%	11%	21%	10%
B23b	Ability to read Spanish	Well	685	78%	1.5%	73%	83%	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	2,101	86%	1.9%	82%	89%	2%
D35trend	Location of housing while at current farm job	Off farm, in property owned by current employer	48	3%	0.7%	1%	4%	28%
D35trend	Location of housing while at current farm job	On farm of employer I currently work for	364	11%	1.6%	8%	14%	14%
D35trend	Location of housing while at current farm job	Other	29	1%	0.2%	0%	1%	28%
D33a	Payment arrangement for living quarters	EMPLOYER-PROVIDED: I pay for housing provided by my employer	92	3%	0.6%	2%	4%	22%
D33a	Payment arrangement for living quarters	EMPLOYER-PROVIDED: I receive free housing from my employer	304	9%	1.5%	6%	12%	17%
D33a	Payment arrangement for living quarters	EMPLOYER-PROVIDED: Other arrangement	30	1% <sup>a</sup>	0.4%	0%	2%	32%
D33a	Payment arrangement for living quarters	I pay for housing provided by govt, charity, other organization	43	2%	0.5%	1%	3%	28%
D33a	Payment arrangement for living quarters	I (or family member) own the house	826	35%	2.0%	31%	39%	6%
D33a	Payment arrangement for living quarters	I rent from non-employer/non-relative	1,278	50%	2.4%	45%	55%	5%
D33a	Payment arrangement for living quarters	Other	10	<1% <sup>a</sup>	0.1%	<1%	<1%	39%

**Appendix C: Index of Percentages and Means for Key Variables**

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Variable Description</b>	<b>Variable Level(s)</b>	<b>Number of Observations</b>	<b>Estimate (Percentage or Mean)</b>	<b>Standard Error</b>	<b>95% Lower Confidence Limit</b>	<b>95% Upper Confidence Limit</b>	<b>Relative Standard Error</b>
D50MTCOD	How much paid for housing per month (coded)	Under \$200	78	6%	1.3%	4%	9%	21%
D50MTCOD	How much paid for housing per month (coded)	\$200-299	110	9%	1.8%	5%	13%	21%
D50MTCOD	How much paid for housing per month (coded)	\$300-399	164	12%	1.5%	9%	15%	12%
D50MTCOD	How much paid for housing per month (coded)	\$400-499	183	12%	1.4%	9%	14%	12%
D50MTCOD	How much paid for housing per month (coded)	\$500-599	198	15%	1.5%	12%	18%	10%
D50MTCOD	How much paid for housing per month (coded)	\$600 or more	666	46%	3.0%	40%	52%	7%
D34trend	Type of housing	Single-family home	1,370	58%	2.1%	54%	63%	4%
D34trend	Type of housing	Mobile home	592	18%	1.7%	15%	21%	9%
D34trend	Type of housing	Apartment	529	20%	1.7%	17%	23%	8%
D34trend	Type of housing	Other (includes duplex or triplex, dormitory or barracks, motel or hotel, and 'other')	87	4% <sup>a</sup>	1.1%	1%	6%	32%
D54a	Number of bedrooms in current living quarters	Average	2,585	3	0.04	3	3	1%
D54b	Number of bathrooms in current living quarters	Average	2,584	2	0.03	1	2	2%
D54c	Number of kitchens in current living quarters	Average	2,584	1	0.00	1	1	0%
D54f	Number of other rooms in current living quarters	Average	2,583	1	0.05	1	1	5%

**Appendix C: Index of Percentages and Means for Key Variables**

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Variable Description</b>	<b>Variable Level(s)</b>	<b>Number of Observations</b>	<b>Estimate (Percentage or Mean)</b>	<b>Standard Error</b>	<b>95% Lower Confidence Limit</b>	<b>95% Upper Confidence Limit</b>	<b>Relative Standard Error</b>
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	715	26%	1.7%	23%	30%	6%
D37a	Distance of current farm job from current residence	I'm located at the job	360	11%	1.6%	7%	14%	15%
D37a	Distance of current farm job from current residence	Within 9 miles	893	33%	2.1%	29%	37%	6%
D37a	Distance of current farm job from current residence	10-24 miles	979	41%	2.1%	37%	45%	5%
D37a	Distance of current farm job from current residence	25-49 miles	305	13%	1.5%	10%	16%	11%
D37a	Distance of current farm job from current residence	50+ miles	45	2%	0.5%	1%	3%	27%
D37	Mode of transportation to work	Drive car	1,789	69%	1.7%	66%	73%	2%
D37	Mode of transportation to work	Walk	203	6%	0.7%	4%	7%	13%
D37	Mode of transportation to work	Ride with others	245	10%	1.0%	8%	12%	10%
D37	Mode of transportation to work	Labor bus, truck, van	83	4%	0.9%	2%	6%	25%
D37	Mode of transportation to work	Raitero	229	10%	1.5%	7%	13%	15%
D37	Mode of transportation to work	Public transportation, other	33	1% <sup>a</sup>	0.4%	1%	2%	30%
D38a	Transport is mandatory	Yes	24	3% <sup>a</sup>	1.0%	1%	5%	31%

**Appendix C: Index of Percentages and Means for Key Variables**

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Variable Description</b>	<b>Variable Level(s)</b>	<b>Number of Observations</b>	<b>Estimate (Percentage or Mean)</b>	<b>Standard Error</b>	<b>95% Lower Confidence Limit</b>	<b>95% Upper Confidence Limit</b>	<b>Relative Standard Error</b>
D38	Pay a fee for rides to work	No	194	37%	4.0%	29%	45%	11%
D38	Pay a fee for rides to work	Yes, a fee	154	22%	2.0%	18%	26%	9%
D38	Pay a fee for rides to work	Yes, just for gas	220	40%	3.3%	34%	47%	8%

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	2,305	89%	2.4%	84%	94%	3%
FLC	Employer is a farm labor contractor	Employer: Farm labor contractor	281	11%	2.4%	6%	16%	22%
D30	How current job was obtained	Applied for the job on my own	720	30%	1.7%	26%	33%	6%
D30	How current job was obtained	Recruited by a grower/his foreman	142	5%	0.9%	4%	7%	17%
D30	How current job was obtained	Recruited by farm labor contractor/his foreman	44	1%	0.3%	1%	2%	23%
D30	How current job was obtained	Referred by the employment service, welfare office, labor union, other means	62	4%	1.0%	2%	6%	28%
D30	How current job was obtained	Referred by relative/friend/workmate	1,615	60%	1.8%	56%	64%	3%
CROP	Primary crop at time of interview	Field crops	356	13%	2.0%	9%	17%	16%
CROP	Primary crop at time of interview	Fruits and nuts	1,028	41%	3.6%	34%	48%	9%
CROP	Primary crop at time of interview	Horticulture	503	22%	2.7%	17%	27%	12%
CROP	Primary crop at time of interview	Vegetables	579	20%	2.4%	16%	25%	12%
CROP	Primary crop at time of interview	Miscellaneous or multiple crops	120	4% <sup>a</sup>	1.4%	1%	6%	39%
TASK	Primary task at time of interview	Pre-harvest	651	23%	2.2%	19%	28%	9%
TASK	Primary task at time of interview	Harvest	610	24%	2.6%	19%	29%	11%
TASK	Primary task at time of interview	Post-harvest	429	19%	2.6%	14%	24%	14%
TASK	Primary task at time of interview	Technical	895	34%	2.7%	28%	39%	8%
D04	Number of hours worked the previous week at current farm job	Average	2,541	45	0.7	44	46	2%

**Appendix C: Index of Percentages and Means for Key Variables**

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Variable Description</b>	<b>Variable Level(s)</b>	<b>Number of Observations</b>	<b>Estimate (Percentage or Mean)</b>	<b>Standard Error</b>	<b>95% Lower Confidence Limit</b>	<b>95% Upper Confidence Limit</b>	<b>Relative Standard Error</b>
D11	Basis of pay	By the hour	2,223	84%	2.5%	79%	89%	3%
D11	Basis of pay	By the piece	200	11%	2.6%	6%	16%	23%
D11	Basis of pay	Combination hourly wage and piece rate	28	b	b	b	b	56%
D11	Basis of pay	Salary or other	131	4%	0.6%	2%	5%	17%
WAGET1	Hourly wage for primary task	Average	2,504	\$12.32	0.2	12	13	1%
D20	In last 12 months, received money bonus from current employer	No	638	56%	3.3%	49%	62%	6%
D20	In last 12 months, received money bonus from current employer	Yes	545	35%	3.4%	29%	42%	10%
D20	In last 12 months, received money bonus from current employer	Don't know	55	9%	1.8%	5%	12%	21%
D21ax	Holiday bonus	Yes	320	55%	3.6%	47%	62%	7%
D21bx	Incentive bonus	Yes	71	17%	2.9%	11%	23%	17%
D21cx	Dependent on grower profit	Yes	37	6%	1.2%	4%	9%	19%
D21dx	End of season bonus	Yes	124	23%	3.1%	17%	29%	14%
D21fx	Other bonus	Yes	14	3% <sup>a</sup>	1.4%	<1%	6%	43%
NS01	Employer provides clean drinking water and disposable cups every day	No water, no cups	90	4%	0.8%	2%	5%	24%
NS01	Employer provides clean drinking water and disposable cups every day	Yes, water only	172	6%	0.9%	4%	8%	15%
NS01	Employer provides clean drinking water and disposable cups every day	Yes, water and disposable cups	2,320	90%	1.3%	88%	93%	1%
NS04	Employer provides a toilet every day	Yes	2,562	99%	0.3%	99%	100%	<1%
NS09	Employer provides water to wash hands every day	Yes	2,562	99%	0.3%	99%	100%	<1%
NT02a	Current employer provided training in safe use of pesticides in last 12 months	Yes	1,791	68%	2.6%	63%	73%	4%



**Appendix C: Index of Percentages and Means for Key Variables**

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Variable Description</b>	<b>Variable Level(s)</b>	<b>Number of Observations</b>	<b>Estimate (Percentage or Mean)</b>	<b>Standard Error</b>	<b>95% Lower Confidence Limit</b>	<b>95% Upper Confidence Limit</b>	<b>Relative Standard Error</b>
D26	Covered by Unemployment Insurance	No	1,186	41%	2.5%	36%	45%	6%
D26	Covered by Unemployment Insurance	Yes	1,327	55%	2.5%	50%	60%	4%
D26	Covered by Unemployment Insurance	Don't know	68	4%	0.8%	3%	6%	18%
D23	Receive workers' compensation if injured at work or get sick as a result of work	No	128	5%	0.9%	3%	6%	21%
D23	Receive workers' compensation if injured at work or get sick as a result of work	Yes	2,217	85%	1.8%	82%	89%	2%
D23	Receive workers' compensation if injured at work or get sick as a result of work	Don't know	239	10%	1.5%	7%	13%	14%
D24	Employer provides health insurance or pays for health care for injuries or illness while off the job	No	1,696	59%	2.8%	54%	65%	5%
D24	Employer provides health insurance or pays for health care for injuries or illness while off the job	Yes	735	33%	2.9%	27%	38%	9%
D24	Employer provides health insurance or pays for health care for injuries or illness while off the job	Don't know	152	8%	1.3%	5%	11%	17%

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	2,586	1	0.04	1	1	3%
NUMFEMPL	Number of farm employers in previous 12 months	1 employer	2,098	81%	1.6%	78%	85%	2%
NUMFEMPL	Number of farm employers in previous 12 months	2 employers	313	12%	1.2%	10%	15%	10%
NUMFEMPL	Number of farm employers in previous 12 months	3 or more employers	175	6%	1.1%	4%	9%	18%
D27	Number of years with current employer	Average	2,518	8	0.4	7	9	5%
D27	Number of years with current employer	1 year or less	391	22%	1.9%	18%	26%	9%
D27	Number of years with current employer	2-4 years	741	28%	1.8%	25%	32%	6%
D27	Number of years with current employer	5-10 years	636	24%	1.7%	21%	27%	7%
D27	Number of years with current employer	11-20 years	493	16%	1.4%	14%	19%	8%
D27	Number of years with current employer	21 or more years	257	10%	1.2%	7%	12%	13%
FWWEEKS	Number of weeks of farm work the previous year	Average	2,586	35	0.9	33	37	3%
C10	Number of work days per week	Average	2,583	4	0.1	4	4	3%
FWRDAYS	Number of farm work days the previous year	Average	2,586	198	5.3	188	209	3%

**Appendix C: Index of Percentages and Means for Key Variables**

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Variable Description</b>	<b>Variable Level(s)</b>	<b>Number of Observations</b>	<b>Estimate (Percentage or Mean)</b>	<b>Standard Error</b>	<b>95% Lower Confidence Limit</b>	<b>95% Upper Confidence Limit</b>	<b>Relative Standard Error</b>
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)	2,475	19	0.6	18	20	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)	105	5%	0.7%	3%	6%	16%
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)	250	12%	1.3%	10%	15%	10%
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)	382	15%	1.1%	13%	17%	7%
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)	739	27%	1.5%	24%	30%	6%
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)	469	20%	1.6%	17%	23%	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)	530	21%	1.8%	17%	24%	9%

**Appendix C: Index of Percentages and Means for Key Variables**

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Variable Description</b>	<b>Variable Level(s)</b>	<b>Number of Observations</b>	<b>Estimate (Percentage or Mean)</b>	<b>Standard Error</b>	<b>95% Lower Confidence Limit</b>	<b>95% Upper Confidence Limit</b>	<b>Relative Standard Error</b>
B12	Number of years of non-crop work in the US	None	1,150	46%	2.4%	41%	51%	5%
B12	Number of years of non-crop work in the US	1 year	253	9%	1.0%	7%	11%	10%
B12	Number of years of non-crop work in the US	2-10 years	752	32%	2.1%	28%	36%	7%
B12	Number of years of non-crop work in the US	11 or more years	260	12%	1.5%	9%	15%	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	1,265	8	0.7	7	9	8%
B13	Last time parents did hired farm work in the US	Never	1,323	51%	1.9%	48%	55%	4%
B13	Last time parents did hired farm work in the US	Now/within the last year	290	11%	1.1%	9%	13%	9%
B13	Last time parents did hired farm work in the US	1-5 years ago	102	4%	0.7%	3%	5%	18%
B13	Last time parents did hired farm work in the US	6-10 years ago	110	4%	0.6%	3%	5%	14%
B13	Last time parents did hired farm work in the US	11 or more years ago	731	29%	1.7%	26%	33%	6%
B13	Last time parents did hired farm work in the US	Don't know	6	0% <sup>a</sup>	0.1%	0%	0%	48%

**Appendix C: Index of Percentages and Means for Key Variables**

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Variable Description</b>	<b>Variable Level(s)</b>	<b>Number of Observations</b>	<b>Estimate (Percentage or Mean)</b>	<b>Standard Error</b>	<b>95% Lower Confidence Limit</b>	<b>95% Upper Confidence Limit</b>	<b>Relative Standard Error</b>
E02	How long expect to continue doing farm work	Less than one year	69	5%	0.8%	3%	6%	19%
E02	How long expect to continue doing farm work	1-3 years	298	10%	1.0%	8%	12%	10%
E02	How long expect to continue doing farm work	4-5 years	102	4%	0.6%	3%	5%	14%
E02	How long expect to continue doing farm work	Over 5 years	68	3%	0.5%	1%	4%	21%
E02	How long expect to continue doing farm work	Over 5 years/as long as I am able	1,988	78%	1.5%	75%	81%	2%
E02	How long expect to continue doing farm work	Other	23	1%	0.3%	0%	2%	29%

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	2,586	9	0.9	7	11	10%
ABWEEKS	Number of weeks abroad the previous year	Average	2,586	2	0.3	1	2	17%
NFWEKES	Number of weeks of non-crop work the previous year	NFWEKES>0	661	31%	2.4%	26%	35%	8%
NFWEKES	Number of weeks of non-crop work the previous year	Average, among those with NFWEKES>0	661	25	1.6	21	28	7%
NUMNFJOBS	Number of non-crop jobs the previous year	Average, among those with NFWEKES>0	661	1	0.1	1	2	3%
HasNFLeave (by NFWEKES)	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 NFWEKES>0)	313	44%	3.9%	36%	52%	9%
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)	94	28%	3.4%	21%	35%	12%
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)	206	66%	3.8%	58%	73%	6%
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)	13	6% <sup>a</sup>	2.4%	2%	11%	37%
HadNW	Had at least one period of not working in previous year	Yes	1,784	70%	2.0%	66%	74%	1784

**Appendix C: Index of Percentages and Means for Key Variables**

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Variable Description</b>	<b>Variable Level(s)</b>	<b>Number of Observations</b>	<b>Estimate (Percentage or Mean)</b>	<b>Standard Error</b>	<b>95% Lower Confidence Limit</b>	<b>95% Upper Confidence Limit</b>	<b>Relative Standard Error</b>
WeeksNotWorking	Number of weeks not working in previous year	Average, among those who had at least one period of not working in previous year	1,784	16	1.0	14	18	6%
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)	265	17%	3.3%	10%	23%	19%

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	2,433	11 (\$20,000 to \$24,999)	0.1	10 (\$17,500 to \$19,999)	11 (\$20,000 to \$24,999)	1%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	Median	2,433	11 (\$20,000 to \$24,999)	0.2	10 (\$17,500 to \$19,999)	11 (\$20,000 to \$24,999)	2%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	Did not work at all the previous year	66	5%	0.9%	3%	7%	17%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	\$500-\$999	11	1%	0.3%	0%	1%	40% <sup>a</sup>
G01	Total personal income the previous year	\$1,000-\$2,499	18	2%	0.7%	0%	3%	44% <sup>a</sup>
G01	Total personal income the previous year	\$2,500-\$4,999	43	3%	0.7%	2%	5%	21%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	\$5,000-\$7,499	47	3%	0.7%	2%	5%	21%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	\$7,500-\$9,999	60	3%	0.5%	2%	4%	20%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	\$10,000-\$12,499	78	3%	0.6%	2%	4%	18%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	\$12,500-\$14,999	110	4%	0.7%	3%	5%	17%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	\$15,000-\$17,499	170	7%	1.1%	5%	10%	15%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	\$17,500-\$19,999	229	9%	1.1%	7%	11%	11%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	\$20,000-\$24,999	531	20%	1.8%	16%	24%	9%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	\$25,000-\$29,999	435	16%	1.4%	13%	18%	9%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	\$30,000-\$34,999	310	10%	1.0%	8%	12%	10%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	\$35,000-\$39,999	172	6%	0.8%	4%	7%	14%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	Over \$40,000	219	7%	0.9%	5%	9%	13%



**Appendix C: Index of Percentages and Means for Key Variables**

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Variable Description</b>	<b>Variable Level(s)</b>	<b>Number of Observations</b>	<b>Estimate (Percentage or Mean)</b>	<b>Standard Error</b>	<b>95% Lower Confidence Limit</b>	<b>95% Upper Confidence Limit</b>	<b>Relative Standard Error</b>
G01	Total personal income the previous year	Don't remember (don't know)	48	1%	0.3%	0%	2%	29%
G01	Total personal income the previous year	Refused to answer	22	1%	0.3%	0%	1%	35% <sup>a</sup>

**Appendix C: Index of Percentages and Means for Key Variables**

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Variable Description</b>	<b>Variable Level(s)</b>	<b>Number of Observations</b>	<b>Estimate (Percentage or Mean)</b>	<b>Standard Error</b>	<b>95% Lower Confidence Limit</b>	<b>95% Upper Confidence Limit</b>	<b>Relative Standard Error</b>
G03	Family's total income the previous year	Average	2,429	12 (\$25,000 to \$29,999)	0.1	12 (\$25,000 to \$29,999)	12 (\$25,000 to \$29,999)	1%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	Median	2,429	12 (\$25,000 to \$29,999)	0.1	12 (\$25,000 to \$29,999)	12 (\$25,000 to \$29,999)	1%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	Did not work at all the previous year	50	4%	0.8%	2%	6%	20%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	\$1,000-\$2,499	20	1% <sup>a</sup>	0.4%	0%	2%	37%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	\$2,500-\$4,999	32	3%	0.7%	1%	4%	25%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	\$5,000-\$7,499	33	3%	0.6%	1%	4%	23%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	\$7,500-\$9,999	29	1%	0.3%	1%	2%	26%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	\$10,000-\$12,499	46	2%	0.4%	1%	3%	21%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	\$12,500-\$14,999	61	2%	0.4%	1%	3%	19%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	\$15,000-\$17,499	114	5%	0.8%	3%	7%	16%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	\$17,500-\$19,999	160	5%	0.7%	4%	7%	12%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	\$20,000-\$24,999	349	14%	1.5%	11%	17%	11%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	\$25,000-\$29,999	350	14%	1.4%	11%	17%	10%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	\$30,000-\$34,999	290	12%	1.0%	10%	14%	9%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	\$35,000-\$39,999	229	7%	0.7%	5%	8%	10%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	Over \$40,000	716	26%	1.7%	22%	29%	7%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	Refused to answer	27	1%	0.3%	0%	1%	32%
G03	Family's total income the previous year	Don't remember (don't know)	55	1%	0.3%	1%	2%	26%

**Appendix C: Index of Percentages and Means for Key Variables**

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FAMPOV	Family income below the poverty level	Below poverty level	435	21%	1.8%	18%	25%	8%
ASSETUS	Assets in US	Any US asset	2,029	77%	1.9%	74%	81%	2%
G06a	Type of US asset	Plot of land	74	2%	0.4%	1%	3%	17%
G06d	Type of US asset	Car or truck	1,924	74%	1.9%	70%	78%	3%
G06h	Type of US asset	A type of housing, such as a house, mobile home, condominium, or apartment	638	40%	2.5%	35%	45%	6%
G04c	Type of contribution-based program household member utilized in the last 2 years	Disability insurance	52	3%	0.7%	2%	4%	23%
G04d	Type of contribution-based program household member utilized in the last 2 years	Unemployment Insurance	278	13%	2.5%	8%	18%	19%
G04e	Type of contribution-based program household member utilized in the last 2 years	Social Security	60	2%	0.5%	1%	4%	22%
G04b	Type of need-based program household member utilized in the last 2 years	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	360	15%	1.6%	12%	18%	11%
G04i	Type of need-based program household member utilized in the last 2 years	Public health clinics	417	17%	2.2%	12%	21%	13%
G04j	Type of need-based program household member utilized in the last 2 years	Medicaid	1,122	43%	2.3%	39%	48%	5%
G04k	Type of need-based program household member utilized in the last 2 years	WIC	274	11%	1.2%	9%	14%	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)	26	2% <sup>a</sup>	0.7%	<1%	3%	37%

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	1,303	56%	2.2%	52%	61%	4%
A23a1	Who pays for farmworker's health insurance	Farmworker	133	9%	1.3%	7%	12%	14%
A23a2	Who pays for farmworker's health insurance	Farmworker's spouse	10	<1% <sup>a</sup>	0.2%	<1%	1%	44%
A23a3	Who pays for farmworker's health insurance	Farmworker's employer	397	30%	3.6%	23%	37%	12%
A23a4	Who pays for farmworker's health insurance	Farmworker's spouse's employer	113	8%	2.0%	5%	12%	23%
A23a5	Who pays for farmworker's health insurance	Government	506	41%	3.8%	33%	48%	9%
A23a6	Who pays for farmworker's health insurance	Other	116	7%	1.1%	5%	10%	15%
A23a7	Who pays for farmworker's health insurance	Farmworker's parents'/family's plan	66	7%	1.3%	4%	9%	20%
A21b	Spouse has health insurance	Yes	918	66%	2.5%	61%	71%	4%
A23b1	Who pays for spouse's insurance	Farmworker	64	7%	1.5%	4%	10%	21%
A23b2	Who pays for spouse's insurance	Farmworker's spouse	17	2%	0.5%	1%	3%	26%
A23b3	Who pays for spouse's insurance	Farmworker's employer	139	15%	2.5%	10%	20%	16%
A23b4	Who pays for spouse's insurance	Farmworker's spouse's employer	230	26%	3.2%	20%	33%	12%
A23b5	Who pays for spouse's insurance	Government	421	46%	3.8%	39%	54%	8%
A23b6	Who pays for spouse's insurance	Other	62	5%	0.9%	3%	7%	18%
A21c2	Children have health insurance	Yes, all have it	1,058	92%	1.5%	89%	95%	2%
A21c2	Children have health insurance	Yes, only some have it	20	2% <sup>a</sup>	0.9%	<1%	4%	40%

**Appendix C: Index of Percentages and Means for Key Variables**

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A23c1	Who pays for children's insurance	Farmworker	15	3% <sup>a</sup>	1.3%	1%	6%	38%
A23c2	Who pays for children's insurance	Farmworker's spouse	3	b	b	b	b	67%
A23c3	Who pays for children's insurance	Farmworker's employer	54	6%	1.6%	3%	10%	24%
A23c4	Who pays for children's insurance	Farmworker's spouse's employer	75	7%	1.1%	4%	9%	17%
A23c5	Who pays for children's insurance	Government	899	82%	2.2%	78%	86%	3%
A23c6	Who pays for children's insurance	Other	29	2%	0.6%	<1%	3%	30%
NQ01x	Utilized health care service in last 2 years	Yes	877	71%	3.0%	65%	77%	4%
NQ03bx	Type of health care provider at last visit	Community health center	274	31%	3.3%	24%	37%	11%
NQ03bx	Type of health care provider at last visit	Private doctor's office/private clinic	372	44%	3.8%	36%	51%	9%
NQ03bx	Type of health care provider at last visit	Hospital	61	7%	1.1%	5%	9%	16%
NQ03bx	Type of health care provider at last visit	Healer/curandero, ER, chiropractor/naturopath, other	28	2%	0.6%	1%	3%	29%
NQ03bx	Type of health care provider at last visit	Migrant health clinic	9	b	b	b	b	52%
NQ03bx	Type of health care provider at last visit	Dentist	130	15%	2.1%	11%	19%	14%

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NQ05x	Who paid majority of cost of last health care visit	Paid the bill out of own pocket	280	26%	2.6%	20%	31%	10%
NQ05x	Who paid majority of cost of last health care visit	Medicaid/Medicare	158	24%	2.6%	18%	29%	11%
NQ05x	Who paid majority of cost of last health care visit	Public clinic/did not charge	105	11%	1.7%	8%	15%	15%
NQ05x	Who paid majority of cost of last health care visit	Employer provided health plan	121	15%	2.7%	10%	21%	18%
NQ05x	Who paid majority of cost of last health care visit	Self or family bought individual health plan	125	16%	3.1%	10%	22%	20%
NQ05x	Who paid majority of cost of last health care visit	Other	55	6%	1.1%	4%	8%	19%
NQ05x	Who paid majority of cost of last health care visit	Billed but did not pay, workers' compensation, or combination of sources	30	2%	0.6%	1%	4%	23%

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
NQ10ax	Main difficulties faced when needing to access health care in the US	No transportation, too far away	7	b	b	b	b	51%
NQ10bx	Main difficulties faced when needing to access health care in the US	Don't know where services are available	2	b	b	b	b	80%
NQ10ex	Main difficulties faced when needing to access health care in the US	They don't speak my language	7	<1% <sup>a</sup>	0.1%	<1%	1%	38%
NQ10fx	Main difficulties faced when needing to access health care in the US	They don't treat me with respect	7	<1% <sup>a</sup>	0.2%	<1%	<1%	44%
NQ10gx	Main difficulties faced when needing to access health care in the US	They don't understand my problems	10	1% <sup>a</sup>	0.3%	<1%	2%	38%
NQ10hx	Main difficulties faced when needing to access health care in the US	I'll lose my job	5	<1% <sup>a</sup>	0.1%	<1%	<1%	41%
NQ10ix	Main difficulties faced when needing to access health care in the US	Too expensive/no insurance	316	23%	2.9%	17%	28%	13%
MQ10jx	Main difficulties faced when needing to access health care in the US	Other	13	1% <sup>a</sup>	0.4%	<1%	2%	41%
NQ10lx	Main difficulties faced when needing to access health care in the US	I'm undocumented/no papers (that's why they don't treat me well)	8	b	b	b	b	55%
NQ10mx	Main difficulties faced when needing to access health care in the US	I don't know, I've never needed it	144	9%	1.4%	7%	12%	15%

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

Table 1: Hired Crop Worker Demographics, National Estimates, Seven 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
U.S.-born	40%	17%	29%	26%	27%	25%	32%
Foreign-born	60%	83%	71%	74%	73%	75%	68%
Authorized	86%	46%	52%	50%	53%	51%	64%
Unauthorized	14%	54%	48%	50%	47%	49%	36%
Place of birth: United States/Puerto Rico	40%	17%	29%	26%	27%	25%	32%
Place of birth: Mexico	54%	79%	68%	67%	68%	69%	64%
Place of birth: Central America	2%	2%	3%	6%	4%	6%	3%
Place of birth: Other	3%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%(a)
Current work authorization: U.S. citizen (by birth or naturalization)	43%	20%	33%	29%	31%	29%	38%
Current work authorization: Legal permanent resident (green card)	13%	25%	18%	19%	21%	21%	24%
Current work authorization: Other work authorized	29%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%
Current work authorization: Unauthorized	14%	54%	48%	50%	47%	49%	36%
Migrant type: Settled (did not migrate) <sup>1</sup>	59%	45%	74%	79%	84%	81%	87%
Migrant type: Shuttle migrant <sup>2</sup>	23%	22%	12%	14%	10%	10%	8%
Migrant type: Follow-the-crop migrant <sup>3</sup>	14%	10%	5%	6%	4%	6%	4%
Migrant type: Foreign-born newcomer <sup>4</sup>	4%	22%	9%	2%	2%	4%	2%
Male	73%	80%	78%	73%	72%	68%	69%
Average age	33	31	36	37	38	38	41



**Appendix D: Data on National Demographic and Employment Characteristics**

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

**Appendix D: Data on National Demographic and Employment Characteristics**

<b>Characteristic</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 1989-1991</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 1998-2000</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2007-2009</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2010-2012</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2013-2014</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2015-2016</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2017-2018</b>
English speaking ability (self-reported): Not at all	35%	48%	35%	30%	27%	30%	23%
English speaking ability (self-reported): A little	32%	27%	27%	31%	32%	32%	28%
English speaking ability (self-reported): Somewhat	9%	7%	8%	9%	11%	9%	13%
English speaking ability (self-reported): Well	23%	18%	30%	30%	31%	29%	36%
English reading ability (self-reported): Not at all	38%	59%	45%	40%	38%	41%	33%
English reading ability (self-reported): A little	18%	21%	20%	24%	23%	24%	21%
English reading ability (self-reported): Somewhat	5%	5%	6%	7%	9%	7%	11%
English reading ability (self-reported): Well	40%	16%	29%	29%	30%	28%	35%
Family composition: Married parent	44%	42%	45%	47%	48%	41%	39%
Family composition: Married, no children	14%	10%	14%	12%	15%	15%	18%
Family composition: Unmarried parent	8%	5%	8%	8%	9%	13%	11%
Family composition: Single, no children	34%	43%	33%	32%	27%	30%	32%
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
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
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
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

**Appendix D: Data on National Demographic and Employment Characteristics**

<b>Characteristic</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 1989-1991</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 1998-2000</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2007-2009</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2010-2012</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2013-2014</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2015-2016</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2017-2018</b>
Share of families with below poverty level income	no data	55%	33%	31%	30%	33%	22%
Share of families that received benefits from contribution-based programs <sup>5</sup>	28%	21%	21%	20%	19%	14%	18%
Share of families that received benefits from need-based programs <sup>6</sup>	20%	22%	31%	46%	50%	55%	54%
Ethnicity: Mexican-American	10%	5%	6%	7%	9%	9%	11%
Ethnicity: Mexican	53%	81%	65%	65%	65%	65%	61%
Ethnicity: Chicano	1%	1%	<1%(a)	<1%	<1%	1%	1%(a)
Ethnicity: Puerto Rican	2%	1%	1%(a)	1%(a)	1%(a)	1%(a)	(b)
Ethnicity: Other Hispanic	4%	2%	4%	7%	5%	8%	4%
Ethnicity: Not Hispanic or Latino	30%	10%	24%	20%	20%	17%	23%
Accompanied (respondent was living with at least one nuclear family member at the time of interview)	60%	37%	52%	57%	61%	60%	62%
Among parents, share accompanied	74%	59%	72%	82%	83%	85%	91%

\*Table 1 illustrates weighted data on farmworkers from the Employment and Training Administration's National Agricultural Workers Survey, Public Data, Fiscal Years (FY) 1989-2018.

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 crop workers 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 crop workers 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: Hired Crop Worker Employment Characteristics, National Estimates, Seven 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
Employment type at current farm job: Directly-hired	84%	73%	88%	88%	85%	80%	89%
Employment type at current farm job: Labor-contracted	16%	27%	12%	12%	15%	20%	11%
Average number of years of U.S. farm work experience	10	8	13	12	14	14	16
Years of U.S. farm work experience: 0-1	10%	26%	14%	10%	7%	11%	8%
Years of U.S. farm work experience: 2-4	25%	24%	18%	17%	14%	17%	15%
Years of U.S. farm work experience: 5-10	30%	22%	23%	29%	25%	22%	18%
Years of U.S. farm work experience: 11-20	22%	18%	23%	25%	28%	24%	27%
Years of U.S. farm work experience: 21 or more	13%	10%	22%	20%	25%	25%	33%
Average number of years with current farm employer	5	3	6	6	7	7	8
Years with current farm employer: 0-1	37%	44%	27%	25%	23%	26%	22%
Years with current farm employer: 2-4	32%	36%	33%	33%	32%	32%	28%
Years with current farm employer: 5-10	19%	14%	23%	25%	24%	22%	24%
Years with current farm employer: 11-20	9%	5%	12%	13%	15%	14%	16%
Years with current farm employer: 21 or more	3%	1%	5%	4%	6%	6%	10%
Average hourly earnings at current farm job	\$5.15	\$6.52	\$9.14	\$9.38	\$10.20	\$10.60	\$12.32
Paid below the minimum wage at current farm job	8%	6%	2%	4%	2%	3% <sup>(a)</sup>	(b)

**Appendix D: Data on National Demographic and Employment Characteristics**

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

**Appendix D: Data on National Demographic and Employment Characteristics**

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

**Appendix D: Data on National Demographic and Employment Characteristics**

<b>Characteristic</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 1989-1991</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 1998-2000</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2007-2009</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2010-2012</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2013-2014</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2015-2016</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2017-2018</b>
Primary crop at current farm job: Fruit or nut	28%	37%	35%	34%	41%	32%	41%
Primary crop at current farm job: Horticulture	18%	16%	20%	23%	22%	19%	22%
Primary crop at current farm job: Vegetable	35%	25%	23%	24%	21%	37%	20%
Primary crop at current farm job: Miscellaneous/multiple	6%	6%	5%	3%	3%	3%	4% <sup>(a)</sup>
Primary task at current farm job: Pre-harvest	20%	20%	27%	34%	26%	30%	23%
Primary task at current farm job: Harvest	41%	29%	27%	22%	23%	17%	24%
Primary task at current farm job: Post-harvest	13%	10%	18%	17%	18%	25%	19%
Primary task at current farm job: Technical (e.g., equipment operator)	18%	23%	25%	27%	33%	29%	34%
Primary task at current farm job: Supervisor	1%	(b)	<1%	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)
Primary task at current farm job: Other	7%	18%	3%	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%
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%	33%

**Appendix D: Data on National Demographic and Employment Characteristics**

<b>Characteristic</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 1989-1991</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 1998-2000</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2007-2009</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2010-2012</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2013-2014</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2015-2016</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2017-2018</b>
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%
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%
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%
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%
Workers' Compensation coverage at current farm job [D23]: No	66%	40%	19%	18%	21%	16%	5%
Workers' Compensation coverage at current farm job [D23]: Yes	24%	38%	60%	60%	51%	62%	85%
Workers' Compensation coverage at current farm job [D23]: Don't know	9%	22%	21%	22%	28%	22%	10%
Unemployment Insurance coverage at current farm job: No	38%	55%	49%	53%	50%	52%	41%
Unemployment Insurance coverage at current farm job: Yes	51%	37%	48%	44%	46%	43%	55%
Unemployment Insurance coverage at current farm job: Don't know	10%	8%	3%	3%	3%	5%	4%



**Appendix D: Data on National Demographic and Employment Characteristics**

<b>Characteristic</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 1989-1991</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 1998-2000</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2007-2009</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2010-2012</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2013-2014</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2015-2016</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2017-2018</b>
Mode of transportation to work: Drive a car	46%	34%	56%	55%	59%	58%	69%
Mode of transportation to work: Walk	7%	8%	8%	8%	7%	7%	6%
Mode of transportation to work: Public transportation (bus, train, etc.)	<1%	1%	(b)	(b)	<1% <sup>(a)</sup>	<1% <sup>(a)</sup>	(b)
Mode of transportation to work: Labor bus, truck, van	15%	17%	4%	6%	6%	6% <sup>(a)</sup>	4%
Mode of transportation to work: 'Raitero'	no data	no data	18%	21%	13%	15%	10%
Mode of transportation to work: Ride with others (share ride)	29%	36%	13%	9%	14%	13%	10%
Mode of transportation to work: Other	4%	4%	1%	1% <sup>(a)</sup>	1% <sup>(a)</sup>	1%	1% <sup>(a)</sup>
Pay a fee for rides to work: No	80%	50%	27%	28%	37%	32%	37%
Pay a fee for rides to work: Yes, a fee	20%	45%	38%	31%	29%	28%	22%
Pay a fee for rides to work: Yes, just for gas	no data	5%	35%	41%	34%	39%	40%

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
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%
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%
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% <sup>(a)</sup>	1%	1% <sup>(a)</sup>	<1% <sup>(a)</sup>	1% <sup>(a)</sup>	1% <sup>(a)</sup>
Share who held a non-farm job in the last 12 months	31%	15%	19%	28%	25%	24%	31%
Average number of non-farm work weeks last 12 months	22	24	26	26	25	25	25

**Appendix D: Data on National Demographic and Employment Characteristics**

<b>Characteristic</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 1989-1991</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 1998-2000</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2007-2009</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2010-2012</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2013-2014</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2015-2016</b>	<b>Fiscal Years 2017-2018</b>
Plans to continue working in agriculture: Less than 1 year	9%	7%	3%	2%	3%	4%	5%
Plans to continue working in agriculture: 1-3 years	12%	18%	16%	13%	12%	12%	10%
Plans to continue working in agriculture: 4-5 years	7%	5%	5%	3%	4%	4%	4%
Plans to continue working in agriculture: More than 5 years	4%	5%	9%	3%	2%	2%	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%
Plans to continue working in agriculture: Other	4%	9%	4%	3%	2%	3%	1%
Could find a non-farm job within a month: No	28%	37%	33%	51%	47%	43%	33%
Could find a non-farm job within a month: Yes	51%	39%	44%	32%	36%	45%	58%
Could find a non-farm job within a month: Don't know	20%	24%	23%	17%	17%	12%	10%

\*Table 2 illustrates weighted data on farmworkers from the Employment and Training Administration's National Agricultural Workers Survey, Public Data, Fiscal Years (FY) 1989-2018.

\*\*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.