

# **National Agricultural Workers Survey: A Western Overview & Trends**

**REGION 6 MSFW CONFERENCE**

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Disclaimer: Views are solely those of the  
presenters





# Overview

- Overview of NAWS
- What does the NAWS say about changes in the farmworker population?
- Training and Education
  - Current questions
  - Proposed supplement
- Picture game





# National Agricultural Workers Survey

- National survey of crop workers, started fiscal year 1989
- Annual random sample survey of 1,500-3,000 workers
- Establishment survey – find workers at work
- Only source of reliable information on crop worker demographics
- Limited regional coverage and no local numbers
- No measurement of H2A workers



# Strengths of NAWS

- Rich source of program and policy variables along with demographics, employment, health and safety variables
- 25 years of data
- Methodology tailored to hard-to-measure items and hard-to-survey population





# NAWS: Program Analysis and Planning

- Description of program population
- Identify those not being served, possible outreach populations
- Identification of barriers to participation
- Testing proposed changes in program eligibility
- Descriptive measures of compliance/outcomes

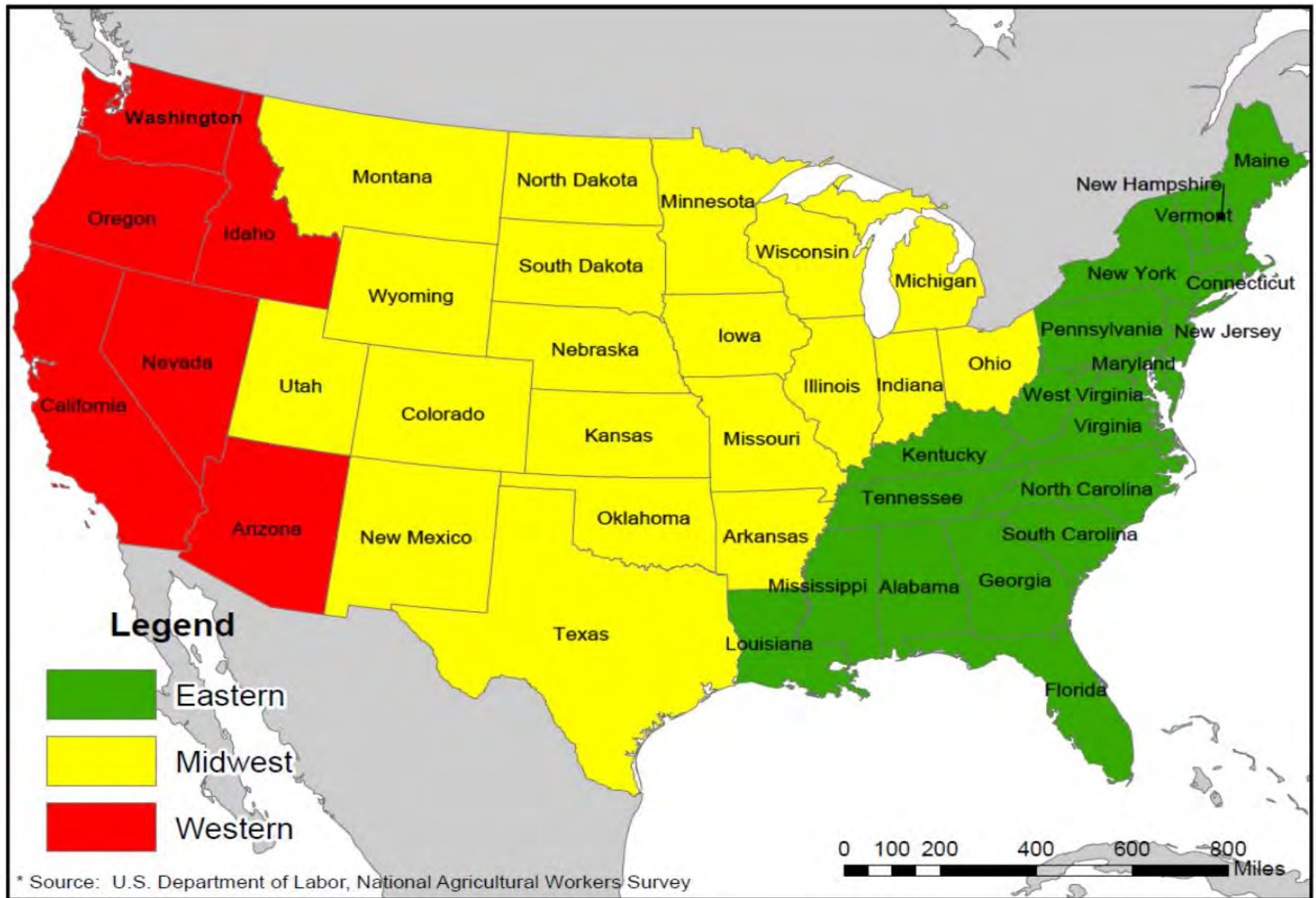


# Limitations of the NAWS

- Local and regional sample sizes are small
- Subpopulations are small



# NAWS Migrant Streams





# Supply Shocks<sup>1</sup>

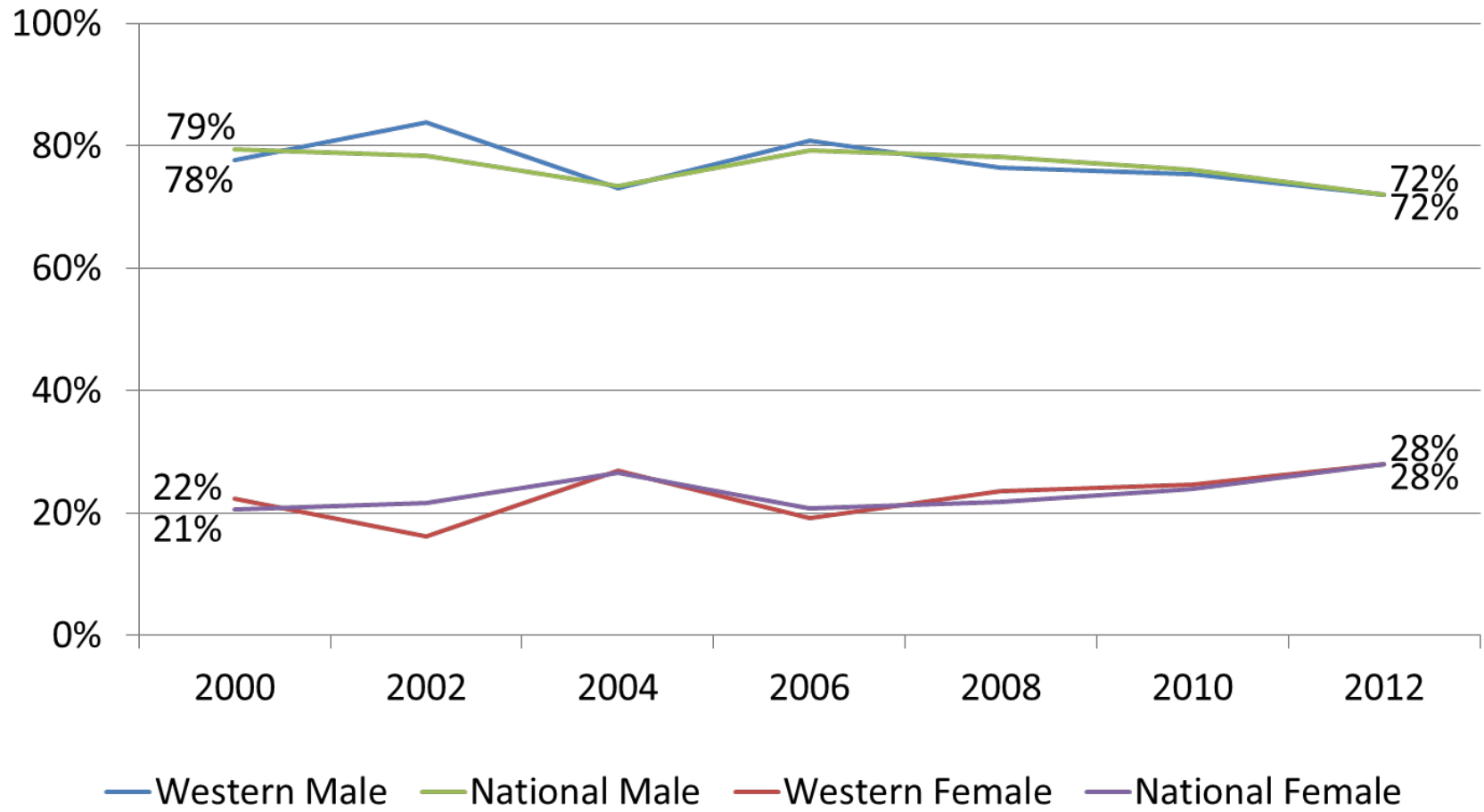
- More difficult to cross US-Mexican border because of new US laws and more border enforcement
- More expensive to hire smugglers to cross US-Mexican border
- Reduced incentive for Mexican citizens to migrate to US because of:
  - Increasing economic growth in Mexico
  - Rising productivity
  - Decreased birth rates
- Change of legal status of farmworkers (IRCA 1986)

<sup>1</sup>Fan, M., Gabbard, S., Pena, A.A., & Perloff, J.M. (2014). Why Do Fewer Agricultural Workers Migrate Now?



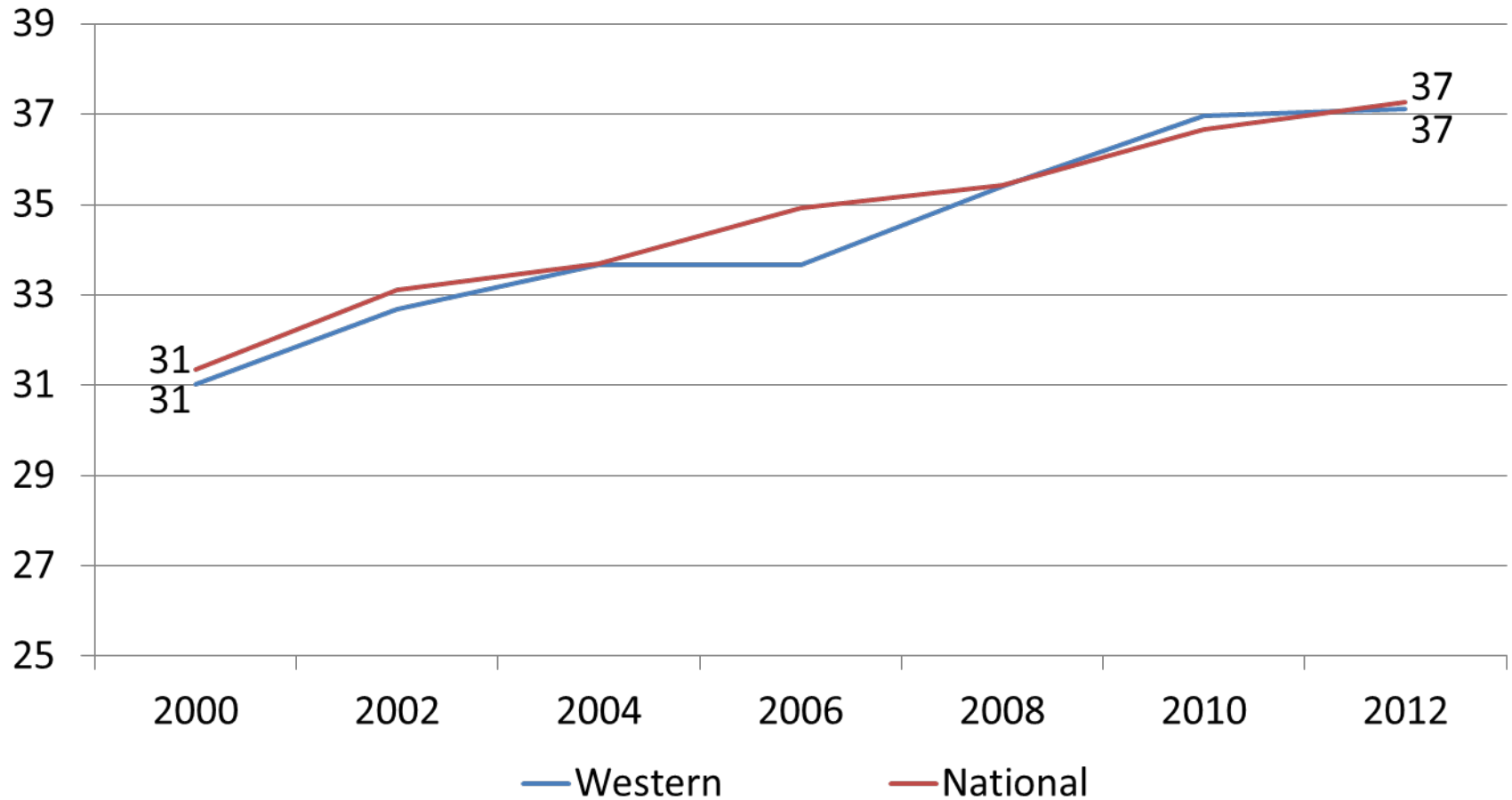
# Farmworker Gender

(Source: National Agricultural Workers Survey)



# Farmworkers' Average Age

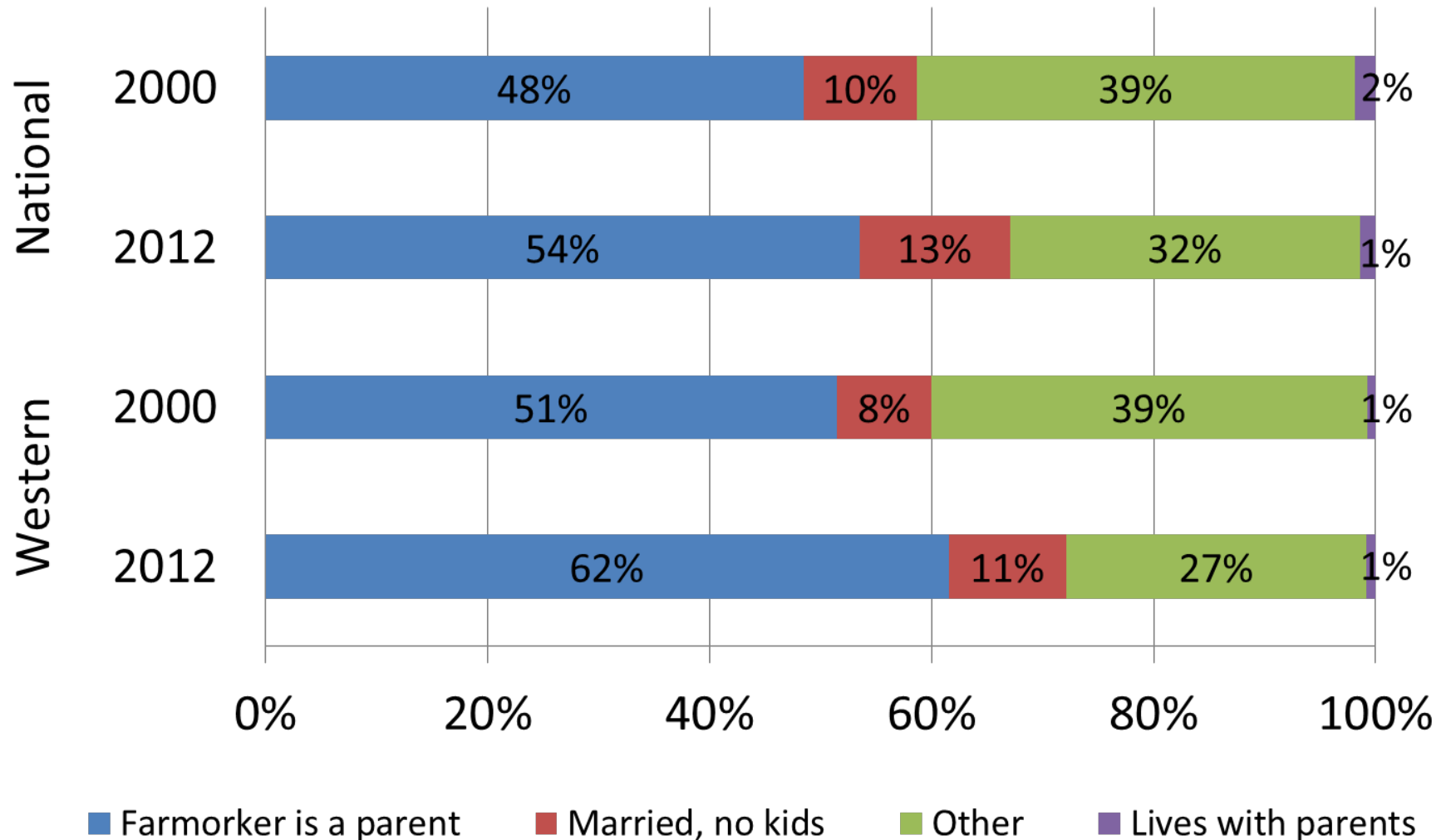
(Source: National Agricultural Workers Survey)





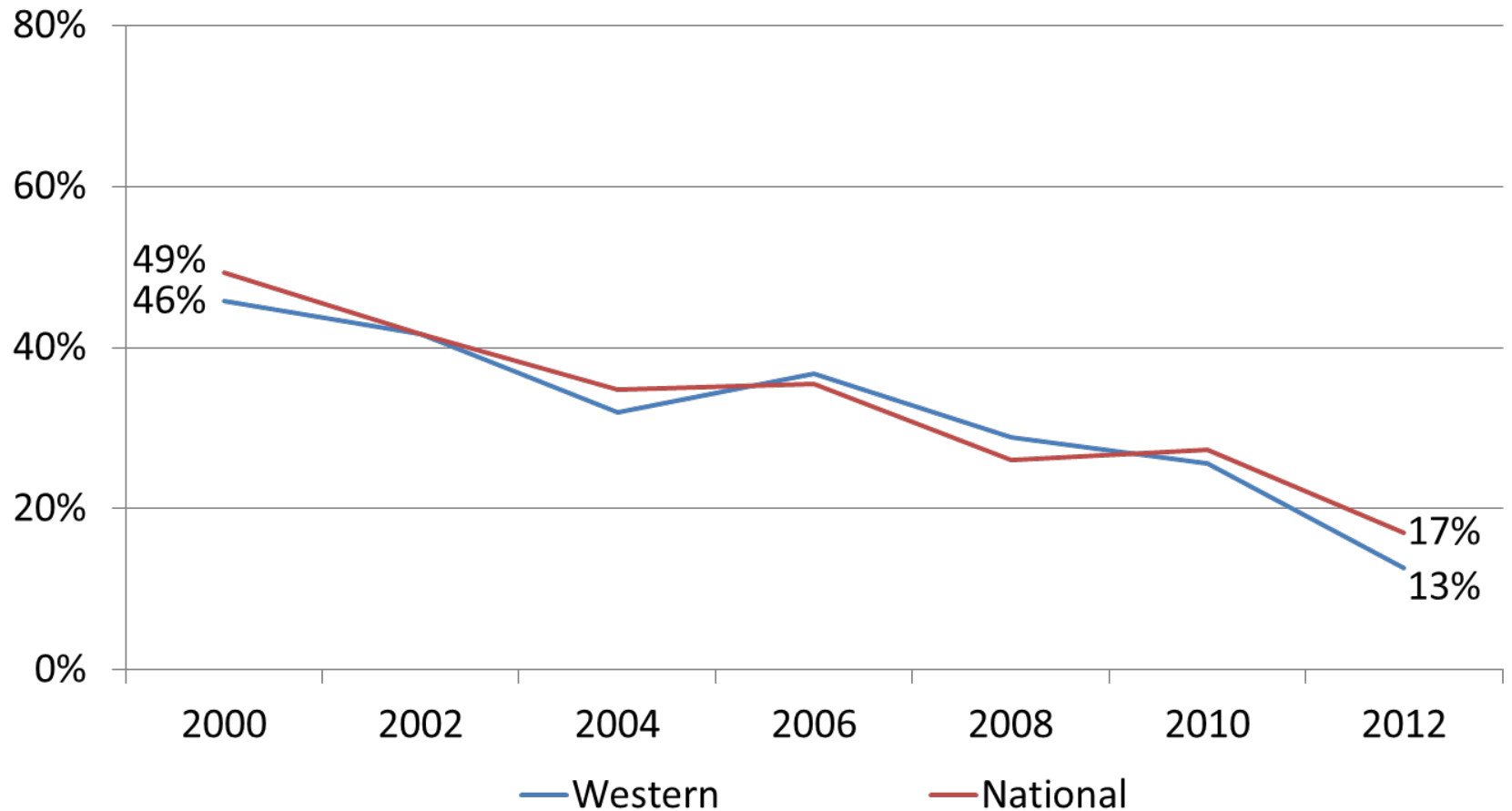
# Farmworkers' Family Composition

(Source: National Agricultural Workers Survey)



# Migrants Trends

(Source: National Agricultural Workers Survey)





# Farmworkers' Current Living Quarters

(Source: National Agricultural Workers' Survey, 2008-2012)

| Type of Living Quarters  | Western Stream | National |
|--|----------------|----------|
| Single family home   | 58%            | 58%      |
| Apartment  | 22%            | 16%      |
| Mobile home  | 16%            | 21%      |
| Duplex/triplex   | 2%             | 2%       |
| Dormitory/barracks/boarding house  | 2%             | 2%       |
| Other<br>(includes RV/camper, campsite, hotel/motel, tent, outdoors, car, homeless, no fixed shelter, and other unnamed types) | 1%             | 2%       |

# Location of Farmworkers' Current Living Quarters

(Source: National Agricultural Workers' Survey, 2008-2012)

| Location of Living Quarters                         | Western Stream | National |
|---|----------------|----------|
| Off-farm, in property not owned by current employer | 90%            | 83%      |
| On farm of current employer                         | 8%             | 13%      |
| Off-farm, in property owned by current employer     | 2%             | 3%       |



# Job Mobility Within Agriculture

- Moving to jobs with longer seasons, higher wages, better working conditions
- Job ladders exist in agriculture
  - Harvester as entry level
  - Extending season, reducing burden with pre and post harvest, may not improve wages, entry also
  - Technical jobs working with machinery, irrigation, chemicals and pesticides
  - Supervisory jobs





# Job Mobility to Non Farm Work

- Farm work is mostly an entry job for immigrants from rural areas. Network based migration
- High turnover though many workers spend more than 10 years in farm work
- Workers move to non farm work as the economy expands and some return when it shrinks
- Usual destinations construction, hotel and restaurant, landscaping, child care, other services



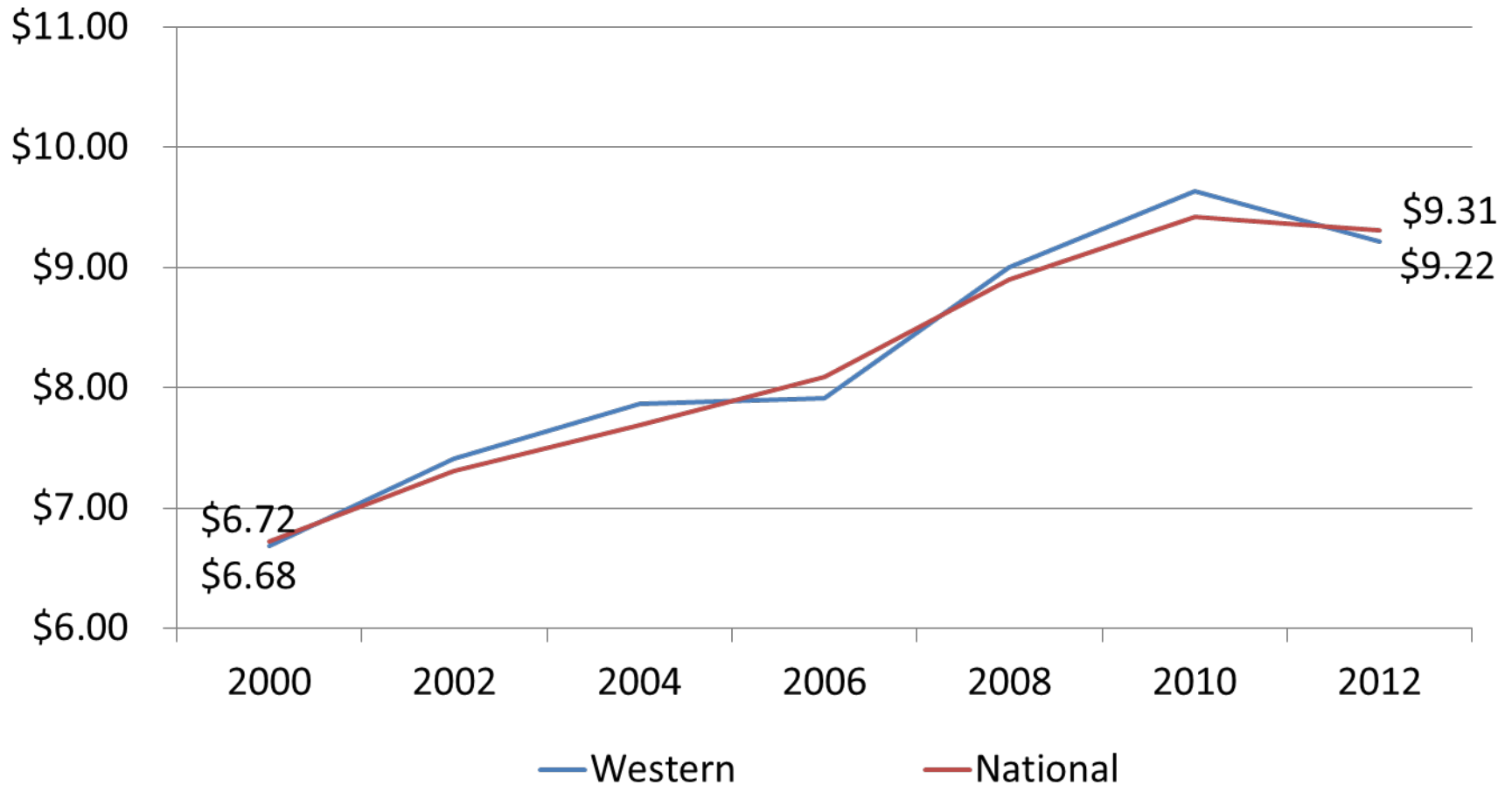


# Non Farm Jobs for Farmworkers

- Largest body of research done around prior immigration reform (late 1980s).
- Findings
  - Moving to non-farm jobs requires more than just work authorization
  - Without formal training programs, farmworkers transition to non-farm jobs within Latino communities, entrepreneurship. English skills not needed.
  - Not just human capital - Local labor markets and networks matter

# Farmworkers' Average Wage

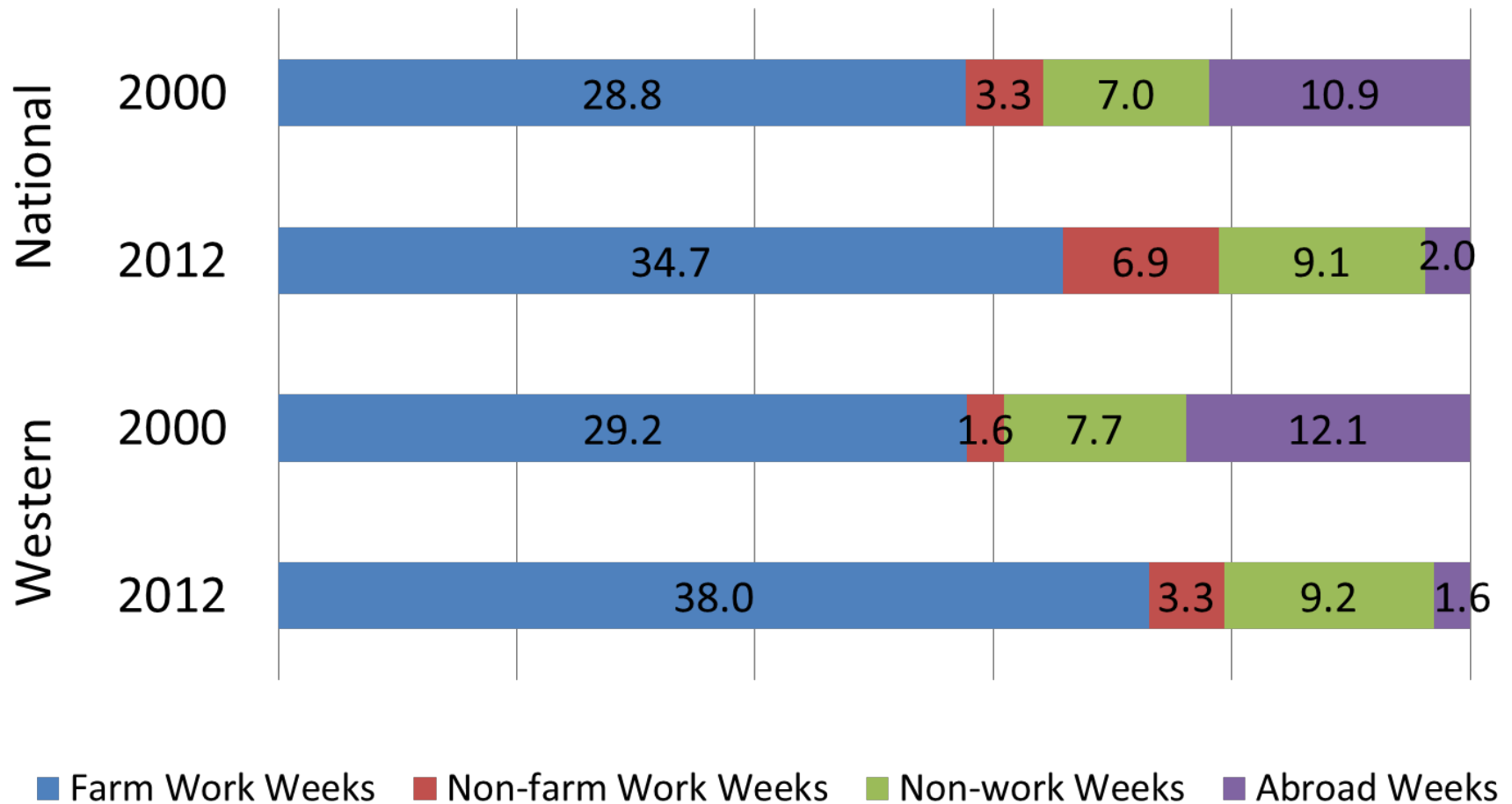
(Source: National Agricultural Workers Survey)





# Farmworkers' Average Number of Weeks By Activity

(Source: National Agricultural Workers Survey)





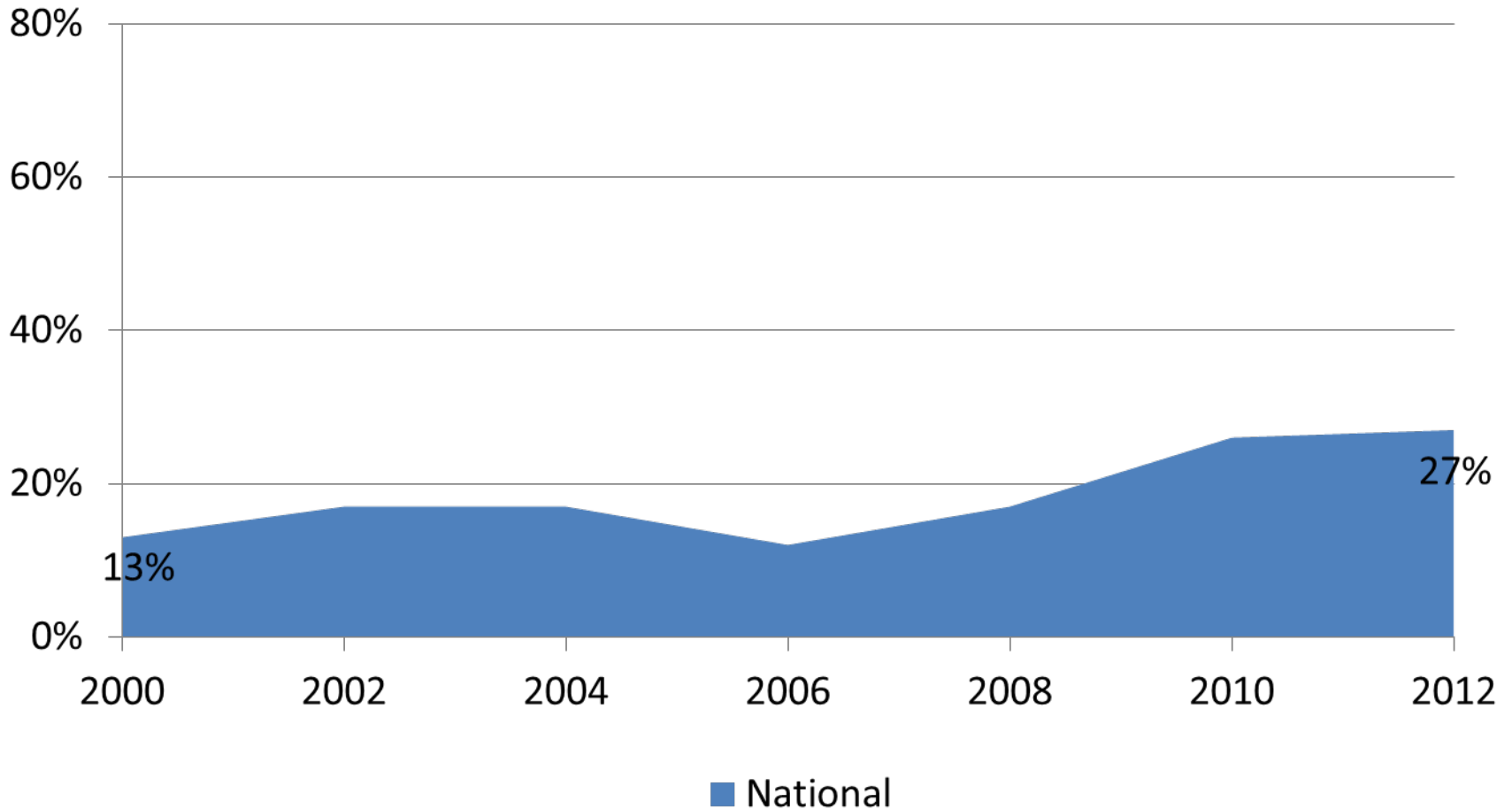
# Years in Farm Work and Non-Farm Work in the US

(Source: National Agricultural Workers Survey, 2008-2012)

| Type of Work  | Average Number of Years, Western Stream | Average Number of Years, National |
|---------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| Farm work     | 13.6                                    | 12.8                              |
| Non-farm work | 2.2                                     | 3.6                               |

# Had a Non-Farm Job in Last Year

(Source: National Agricultural Workers Survey)





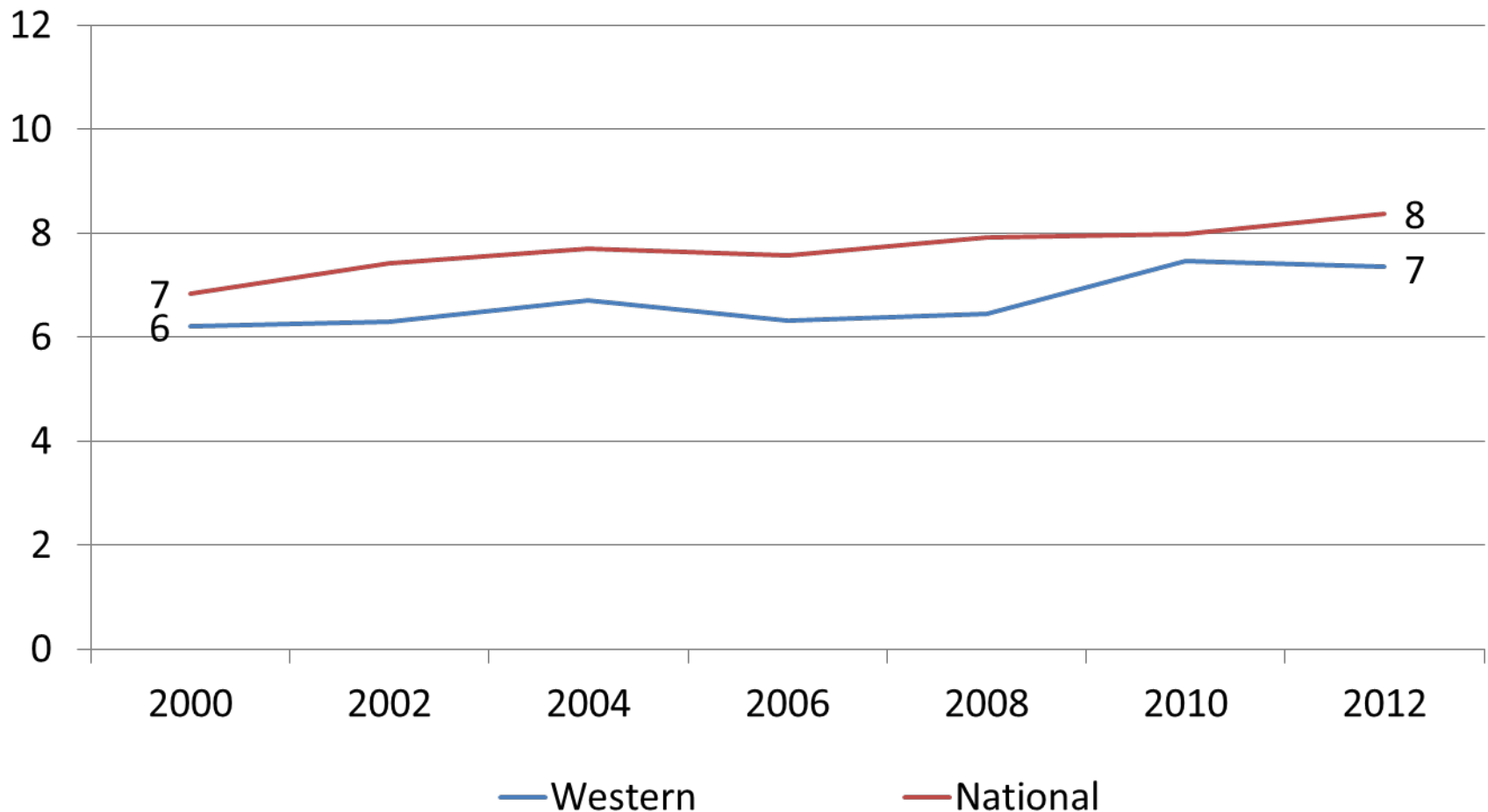


# Farmworker Education

We will discuss findings from the NAWS about farmworker education and training.

# Average Number of Years of Education Completed

(Source: National Agricultural Workers Survey)





# Any US Education

(Source: National Agricultural Workers Survey, 2008-2012)

- Nationally, 49% of farmworkers had received any education in the US
- In the Western Stream, 39% of farmworkers had received any education in the US



# Farmworker Participation in Any Special Classes, Training or School in the US

(Source: National Agricultural Workers Survey, 2008-2012)

| Class, Training or School                         | Western Stream | National |
|---|----------------|----------|
| English/ESL                                       | 21%            | 16%      |
| Job Training                                      | 7%             | 6%       |
| College or University                             | 3%             | 6%       |
| GED, High School Equivalency                      | 3%             | 4%       |
| Citizenship                                       | 3%             | 2%       |
| Literacy or Adult Basic Education                 | 1%             | 1%       |
| Other (includes Even Start and Migrant Education) | 1%             | 2%       |



# Pesticide Training

(Source: National Agricultural Workers Survey, 2008-2012)

Farmworkers were asked if they had received training on the safe use of pesticides in the past year while working with their current employer

- 83% nationally had received training
- 85% in Western Stream had received training

# Special Classes, Training or School in US Attended by Farmworker's Household in Last Two Years

(Source: National Agricultural Workers Survey, 2008-2012)

| Class, Training or School                                  | Western Stream | National |
|--|----------------|----------|
| English Classes, ESL, Adult Basic Education or Citizenship | 4%             | 3%       |
| Head Start   | 4%             | 3%       |
| Other (includes Migrant Education)                         | 2%             | 3%       |
| Migrant Head Start   | 2%             | 2%       |
| Job Training   | 1%             | 2%       |
| GED, High School Equivalency                               | 1%             | 1%       |





# US Farmworker Participation in Job Training or Other Adult Education

(Source: National Agricultural Workers Survey, 2008-2012)

| Farmworker Characteristic   | Percent |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| Authorized                  | 38%     |
| Unauthorized                | 12%     |
| Family income above poverty | 34%     |
| Family income below poverty | 11%     |

# Classes Most Frequently Attended by US Farmworkers

(Source: National Agricultural Workers Survey, 2008-2012)

| Farmworker<br>Characteristic   | English | Job<br>Training | GED | College |
|--------------------------------|---------|-----------------|-----|---------|
| Family income<br>above poverty | 14%     | 5%              | 2%  | 4%      |
| Family income<br>below poverty | 3%      | 1%              | 1%  | 2%      |
| Authorized                     | 7%      | 4%              | 3%  | 6%      |
| Unauthorized                   | 8%      | 2%              | 1%  | <1%     |

# Background for Education and Training Supplement

- Why new questions on education and training are needed (what got us to this point?)
- Previous research on job mobility
- Farm labor markets
- Review of farm labor market characteristics, including pattern of labor moving in and out of farm jobs
- Populations observed to be more likely to participate in education and training programs, e.g. parents with children participating in Migrant Education or Migrant and Seasonal Head Start programs
- History of using the NAWS to measure awareness of and barriers to participating in Federal Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker programs
- Typical process and timeline for developing, testing, and administering new questions



# Process for Developing a Supplement

- Develop domains and questions
- Qualitative pilot testing supplement with farmworkers and interviewers
- Write OMB justification
- OMB clearance process 150 days
- Addition to annual NAWES data collection



































# Domains

- Awareness of education and employment training opportunities/programs
- Barriers to participating in programs
- Access to and use of digital information (we have a draft set of questions that needs a sponsor)
- Duration, intensity, quality of training already obtained
- When training was taken (this is important because the impact of training is often not observable in terms of higher wages, etc., for several years)
- On the job training

# Digital Information

## New NAWS Supplement

| DL DIGITAL INFORMATION   |  |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|--|--|---|--|
| <b>DI1</b> Do you or any member of your family ["Household Grid"] have access to digital information sources (i.e., internet, smart phones, etc.)?    |  | <b>DI2</b><br>What devices? [MARK RESPONSES]   |  |   |  |
|  |  | a. Computer with Internet?   | b. Cellular phone?   | c. Smartphone?  | d. Tablet?   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Respondent?   | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES  | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES   | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES  | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Spouse?   | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES  | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES   | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES  | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Children?   | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES  | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES   | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES  | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Other?:   | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES  | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES   | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES  | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES |
| <b>DI3.</b> Have you used, or has anyone helped you use, any digital device to seek or obtain information about ...  |  | <b>DI4.</b> What devices have you used? [MARK ALL RESPONSES]   |  | <b>DI5.</b> Who helped you use the device to seek or obtain the information (in "DI3")? [MARK ALL RESPONSES]                                      |  |
| a. ...health or health insurance?<br><input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO  <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES                     |  | <input type="checkbox"/> a. COMPUTER  Where:<br><input type="checkbox"/> b. TABLET  Where:<br><input type="checkbox"/> c. SMART PHONE <input type="checkbox"/> d. CELLULAR PHONE     |  | <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Self <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Spouse?<br><input type="checkbox"/> 3. Children? <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Other?: |  |
| b. ...seeking employment?<br><input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO  <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES                             |  | <input type="checkbox"/> a. COMPUTER  Where:<br><input type="checkbox"/> b. TABLET  Where:<br><input type="checkbox"/> c. SMART PHONE <input type="checkbox"/> d. CELLULAR PHONE     |  | <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Self <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Spouse?<br><input type="checkbox"/> 3. Children? <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Other?: |  |
| c. ...training and/or education?<br><input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO  <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES                      |  | <input type="checkbox"/> a. COMPUTER  Where:<br><input type="checkbox"/> b. TABLET  Where:<br><input type="checkbox"/> c. SMART PHONE <input type="checkbox"/> d. CELLULAR PHONE     |  | <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Self <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Spouse?<br><input type="checkbox"/> 3. Children? <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Other?: |  |
| c. ...child care?<br><input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO  <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES                                 |  | <input type="checkbox"/> a. COMPUTER  Where:<br><input type="checkbox"/> b. TABLET  Where:<br><input type="checkbox"/> c. SMART PHONE <input type="checkbox"/> d. CELLULAR PHONE |  | <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Self <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Spouse?<br><input type="checkbox"/> 3. Children? <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Other?: |  |
| d. ...housing?<br><input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO  <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES                                    |  | <input type="checkbox"/> a. COMPUTER  Where:<br><input type="checkbox"/> b. TABLET  Where:<br><input type="checkbox"/> c. SMART PHONE <input type="checkbox"/> d. CELLULAR PHONE |  | <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Self <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Spouse?<br><input type="checkbox"/> 3. Children? <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Other?: |  |
| e. ...benefits?<br><input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO  <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES: [SPECIFY]: <input type="text"/>  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> a. COMPUTER  Where:<br><input type="checkbox"/> b. TABLET  Where:<br><input type="checkbox"/> c. SMART PHONE <input type="checkbox"/> d. CELLULAR PHONE |  | <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Self <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Spouse?<br><input type="checkbox"/> 3. Children? <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Other?: |  |
| f. ...other?: [SPECIFY]: <input type="text"/>   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> a. COMPUTER  Where:<br><input type="checkbox"/> b. TABLET  Where:<br><input type="checkbox"/> c. SMART PHONE <input type="checkbox"/> d. CELLULAR PHONE |  | <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Self <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Spouse?<br><input type="checkbox"/> 3. Children? <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Other?: |  |



# Education and Training

## New NAWS Supplement

[REV. Jul 9, 2015]

S:\4. Questionnaire\2015\OMBNEWQUESTIONS\OMB clear JUL 09 2015.wpd

### EDUCATION AND TRAINING

| 1. In the USA or elsewhere, have you participated in or attended any type of educational program, training or classes that are work-related or important to you in any other way? They could have been... [Intwr: first ask all items in first column ("a" to "f") and explain and provide examples for each one;...] |  |  |   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|--|
| [FOR EACH QUESTION, REFER TO LAST TIME. IF YES, SPECIFY BY ASKING FOR OCCUPATION AND INDUSTRY. MARK IF "FW" OR "NF"]  | 2. Where (venue or provider facility)? [GIVE EXAMPLES. ENTER CODE]           | 3. When? (Dates: Year and Total hours per week/day?) | 4. Completed? [ENTER CODES FOR "NO"]                                      | 5. Did it lead to a credential or license? [Specify]                       | 6. Did you pay anything for it?  | 7. And this training program, has it helped (will help) you for a better job or in any other way? [WRITE RESPONSE] |
| <b>a. ...Worker safety training?</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES: <input type="checkbox"/> FW <input type="checkbox"/> NF<br><input type="checkbox"/> heat? <input type="checkbox"/> pesticide?<br><input type="checkbox"/> injuries <input type="checkbox"/> other?:<br>SPECIFY  | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 USA:<br><input type="checkbox"/> 2 OTHER COUNTRY: | Year?: _____<br>Number of hours?: _____ hrs          | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO Why not?:<br><input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO<br><input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES [Specify]: | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO<br><input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES. How much?: \$ _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO Why?:<br><input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES How?:  |
| <b>b. ...besides "safety training," any other training received here (current work) or in any other work you may have had (OJT)?</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES: <input type="checkbox"/> FW <input type="checkbox"/> NF<br>SPECIFY  | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 USA:<br><input type="checkbox"/> 2 OTHER COUNTRY: | Year?: _____<br>Number of hours?: _____ hrs          | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO Why not?:<br><input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO<br><input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES [Specify]: | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO<br><input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES. How much?: \$ _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO Why?:<br><input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES How?:  |
| <b>c. ...any classes or training for any kind of work?</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES: <input type="checkbox"/> FW <input type="checkbox"/> NF<br>SPECIFY  | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 USA:<br><input type="checkbox"/> 2 OTHER COUNTRY: | Year?: _____<br>Number of hours?: _____ hrs          | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO Why not?:<br><input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO<br><input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES [Specify]: | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO<br><input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES. How much?: \$ _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO Why?:<br><input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES How?:  |
| <b>d. ...English as a Second Language (ESL)?</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES  | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 USA:<br><input type="checkbox"/> 2 OTHER COUNTRY: | Year?: _____<br>Number of hours?: _____ hrs          | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO Why not?:<br><input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO<br><input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES [Specify]: | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO<br><input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES. How much?: \$ _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO Why?:<br><input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES How?:  |
| <b>e. ...besides school,... basic skills like classes in math, reading and writing?</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES   | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 USA:<br><input type="checkbox"/> 2 OTHER COUNTRY: | Year?: _____<br>Number of hours?: _____ hrs          | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO Why not?:<br><input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO<br><input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES [Specify]: | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO<br><input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES. How much?: \$ _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO Why?:<br><input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES How?:  |
| <b>f. ...other?:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> FW <input type="checkbox"/> NF<br>SPECIFY   | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 USA:<br><input type="checkbox"/> 2 OTHER COUNTRY: | Year?: _____<br>Number of hours?: _____ hrs          | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO Why not?:<br><input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO<br><input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES [Specify]: | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO<br><input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES. How much?: \$ _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 NO Why?:<br><input type="checkbox"/> 1 YES How?:  |

| CODES FOR "2"        |                 | CODES FOR "4" "NO, Why not?"      |                          |                                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a. Workplace         | d. Church       | a. Too old to study               | d. Too tired to continue | g. Applied, didn't qualify      |
| b. Community Center  | e. Adult School | b. Did not learn (Will not learn) | e. No child care         | h. "Don't qualify" didn't apply |
| c. Community College | x. Other:       | c. No transportation              | f. Too far               | i. Other:                       |

# Education and Training (continued)

8. Have you ever considered (thought about) attending some other kind of vocational training or special classes to help you improve your skills to obtain better jobs better pay or change careers, etc.?:

☐ 0 NO Why not? [Mark all responses]:

- ☐ a. Too old to study
- ☐ b. Did (Will) not learn
- ☐ c. No transportation
- ☐ f. Too tired to continue
- ☐ g. No child care
- ☐ h. Too far
- ☐ i. Applied, did not qualify
- ☐ j. Don't qualify, did not apply
- ☐ x. Other:

☐ 1 YES: What kind of training or classes?:

9. Have you heard of training programs for farm workers?:

- ☐ 0 NO [SKIP TO 12]  
☐ 1 YES [ASK 10 and 11]

10. What kind of training have you heard of?:

11. Why did you not attend that training? [Mark all responses]:

- ☐ a. Too old to study
- ☐ b. Did (Will) not learn
- ☐ c. No transportation
- ☐ f. Too tired to continue
- ☐ g. No child care
- ☐ h. Too far
- ☐ i. Applied, did not qualify
- ☐ j. Don't qualify, did not apply
- ☐ x. Other:

12. If there were any training programs for FARM WORKERS, without any obstacles, would you consider attending any of them?

☐ 0 NO ¿why not? [Mark all responses and SKIP TO 13]:

- ☐ a. Too old to study
- ☐ b. Did (Will) not learn
- ☐ c. No transportation
- ☐ f. Too tired to continue
- ☐ g. No child care
- ☐ h. Too far
- ☐ i. Applied, did not qualify
- ☐ j. Don't qualify, did not apply
- ☐ x. Other:

☐ 1 YES [ASK ]:

- a. Which training class would you consider attending?

- b. And...why would you choose that (in a)?:

13. Do you think you are qualified to work in any other job with a better pay here (current job) or in any other place (employer)?:

- ☐ 0 NO  
☐ 1 YES. What kind of work?:

# Pilot Study Findings

- New survey question language, particularly technology-related, was adapted to fit appropriate cultural equivalents in Spanish
- Respondents consistently mentioned how important on the job training is for farmworkers
- Lesson that the more acculturated a farmworker is, the more informed they are about training programs
- Pilot studies were conducted in the following states:
  - Florida
  - Texas
  - California



# End of Presentation

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