

National Agricultural Workers Survey: A Western Overview and Trends

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This presentation provided data on changes in the demographic and employment characteristics of the farmworker population from the National Agricultural Workers Survey (NAWS), and an introduction to the new education and training and digital information supplements that are proposed to be added to the NAWS. Between 1999-2000 and 2011-2012, the farmworker population both nationally and in the Western stream grew older and became more settled, and consisted of more women and fewer singles. By 2012, farmworkers were spending more weeks per year in farm work and fewer weeks not working or abroad than they had in 2000, more workers held non-farm jobs during the previous year, and farmworkers' educational attainment increased by an average of one year. In 2008-2012, approximately half of farmworkers nationally and 40 percent of workers in the Western stream had received some education in the U.S. Items from the new education and training and digital information supplements were introduced, and the process by which they were developed and the results of pilot testing them were discussed.