

The Summer of The Death of Hilario Guzman Facts From The National Agricultural Workers Survey by the US Department of Labor.
(<http://www.doleta.gov/agworker/report9/toc.cfm>)

- In fiscal years 2001-2002, as in previous periods, the hired farm workforce was predominantly foreign-born. Just 23 percent of all hired crop farm workers were born in the United States; 75 percent were born in Mexico, two percent in Central American countries, and one percent of the crop workers were born in other countries.
- In 2001-2002, 53 percent of the hired crop labor force lacked authorization to work in the United States, down from 55 percent in 1999-2000. Another 25 percent of the crop workers in 2001-2002 were U.S. citizens, 21 percent were legal permanent residents, and one percent were employment-eligible on some other basis
- Crop workers are young: the average age in 2001-2002 was 33, and half were younger than 31. Among all crop workers, 79 percent were male, 58 percent were married, and 51 percent were parents, who reported an average of two children.
- NAWS respondents worked an average of 42 hours per week and had average hourly earnings of \$7.25. Average hourly earnings increased with years of employment for a particular employer. Crop workers who had been with their employer for one year or less averaged \$6.76 per hour; those with their current employer for at least six years averaged \$8.05 per hour. Average hourly earnings increased by 25 percent in nominal dollars and by nine percent in inflation-adjusted (real) dollars between the periods 1993-1994 and 2001-2002. The increases, however, were not steady. Real hourly earnings declined between 1993 and 1996, and then fell again slightly between 2000 and 2001.
- At the time of the interview, a majority (58%) of the workers lived in housing they rented from someone other than their employer. Twenty-one percent lived in housing that was supplied by their employer (17 percent received it free of charge and four percent paid rent either directly or via payroll deduction); 19 percent lived in housing that either they or a family member owned; and two percent lived, free of charge, with family or friends.
- The average individual income of crop workers was between \$10,000 and \$12,499.
- Total family income averaged between \$15,000 and \$17,499. Thirty percent of all farm workers had total family incomes that were below the poverty guidelines.

Key Question: After the facts, what do you make of migrant work? What might we be able to learn about the migrant experience from, say, the LA Times?