

TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT NOTICE	NO. 18-07
	DATE November 21, 2007

TO: ALL STATE WORKFORCE LIAISONS
ALL STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES

FROM: THOMAS M. DOWD 
Administrator
Office of Policy Development and Research

SUBJECT: Release and Availability of Employment and Training Administration
(ETA) National Agricultural Workers Survey Public Access Data

1. Purpose: To announce the release and availability of the ETA National Agricultural Workers Survey Public Access Data for Fiscal Years 1989-2006.

2. Background: The Department of Labor has continually surveyed hired crop farm workers since 1988 through the National Agricultural Workers Survey (NAWS). The survey's primary focus is to describe the employment, demographic, and health characteristics of hired crop farm workers. It is the only national-level data source for this information. ETA took over responsibility for the survey in 2005.

The NAWS provides an understanding of the workforce resources available to U.S. agriculture. Both public and private service programs use the data for planning, implementing, and evaluating farm worker programs.

The NAWS samples hired crop farm workers in three cycles each year to capture the seasonality of agricultural employment. Workers are randomly sampled at their work sites. During the initial contact, arrangements are made to interview the respondent at home or at another location convenient to the respondent. Depending on the information needs and resources of the various Federal agencies that use NAWS data, between 1,500 and 4,000 workers are interviewed each year.

The data set contains information from 46,566 in-person interviews with hired crop farm workers. The interviews were conducted in 387 counties and 39 states between October 1, 1988 and September 30, 2006. The data set includes 204 questionnaire variables and 62 created variables.

3. Data Description: To learn more about this data set, please see the attached document entitled, NAWS Public Access Data: Fiscal Years 1989-2006.

**EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20210**

4. Inquiries: To download the data set, visit the NAWS Web page at: <http://www.doleta.gov/agworker/naws.cfm>. For questions regarding the data set or the survey please contact Daniel Carroll, Research Team, Division of Research and Evaluation, Office of Policy Development and Research, Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room N5641, Washington, D.C. 20210; email: carroll.daniel.j@dol.gov ; phone: (202) 693-2795.

5. Attachment: NAWS Public Access Data: Fiscal Years 1989-2006 document.

NAWS Public Access Data: Fiscal Years 1989 – 2006

Background

This version of the National Agricultural Workers Survey (NAWS) Public Access Data (NAWSPAD) contains information from 46,566 in-person interviews with hired crop farm workers. The interviews were conducted in 387 counties and 39 states between October 1, 1988 and September 30, 2006. The data set includes 204 questionnaire variables and 62 created variables. This document describes the data and provides analysis tips.

The NAWSPAD was constructed under two guiding principles: 1) to protect the privacy rights of the farm worker respondents and the agricultural employers at whose establishments the workers were interviewed; and 2) to provide a data set that allows in-depth analyses of the demographic and employment characteristics of hired crop workers at both the national and regional level.

Confidential Data Safeguards

The names and addresses of employers and respondents do not appear in either the full NAWS data set or the NAWSPAD. Additional safeguards have been incorporated in the NAWSPAD: the variables 'crop' and 'task' have been collapsed into five and six categories, respectively, the 12 sampling regions have been collapsed into six, and the season of interview variable has been removed.

Sampling Regions

Workers are sampled from 12 regions, which are aggregated from 17 U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)-designated regions. The sampling methodology is discussed at <http://www.doleta.gov/agworker/statmethods.cfm>. As noted above, the 12 regions have been collapsed into six in the NAWSPAD. Table 1 lists the regions and the states each region represents; Table 2 shows the number of interviews by Fiscal Year and region.

Table 1. NAWSPAD Regions and States

Region No.	Region Name	States Represented
1	EAST	North Carolina, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, West Virginia, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania
2	SOUTHEAST	Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, Florida
3	MIDWEST	Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin
4	SOUTHWEST	Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas
5	NORTHWEST	Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Nevada, Utah, Oregon, Washington
6	CALIFORNIA	California

Table 2. Number of Interviews by Fiscal Year and Region, 1989-2006

FY	Region 1 East	Region 2 Southeast	Region 3 Midwest	Region 4 Southwest	Region 5 Northwest	Region 6 California	Total
1989	311	504	322	269	324	796	2526
1990	149	571	58	300	230	810	2118
1991	149	731	88	321	279	1032	2600
1992	147	552	87	235	201	674	1896
1993	423	351	442	248	265	664	2393
1994	478	320	454	221	290	611	2374
1995	347	306	411	237	354	708	2363
1996	264	371	306	242	277	591	2051
1997	338	397	257	242	264	602	2100
1998	319	428	262	236	262	592	2099
1999	569	487	546	239	489	1282	3612
2000	383	603	440	223	528	1409	3586
2001	414	548	393	177	417	1162	3111
2002	445	585	478	224	431	1198	3361
2003	464	616	499	266	477	1263	3585
2004	413	519	455	171	407	1081	3046
2005	314	337	374	118	314	770	2227
2006	176	300	195	116	196	535	1518
Total	6103	8526	6067	4085	6005	15780	46,566

Interview Cycles, Post-Sampling Weights, and Analysis Tips

Interviews are conducted three times per year to account for seasonal changes in agricultural production and employment. The cycles begin in October, February, and July. Due to the timing of the cycles and the construction of the post-sampling weights, it

is recommended that the data be analyzed by Fiscal Year(s). When analyzing data at the national level, at least two years of data should be combined. For robust regional level findings, at least four years should be combined. The data are not analyzable by interview cycle.

When analyzing one year of data, the sampling weight variable PWTCRD should be used; for multiple years of data, PWTYCRD should be used. The post sampling weights are discussed in Appendix A of the document entitled *Statistical Methods of the National Agricultural Workers Survey*, which is available at <http://www.doleta.gov/agworker/statmethods.cfm>.

Description of Files and Analysis Tips

The data are available in both Excel and SAS. All the data may be downloaded at once, i.e., as a single file. Alternatively, files containing the questionnaire and created variables may be downloaded separately and then merged by the variable 'FWID' (farm worker identification number). It is highly recommended that the questionnaire and codebook also be downloaded. Questionnaire variable names in the codebook match the cycle 55¹ questionnaire.

There are nine files, three each in PDF, Excel, and SAS. The files are described below.

PDF Files

1. *Public Access codebook 1989-2006.pdf*
Size: 586 KB
Description: This is the codebook. It includes a table of contents, index of created variables, the questions as they appear in the questionnaire, the un-weighted number of non missing responses to each question and created variable, and the response categories. The number of responses by response category is not provided.
2. *NAWS_ Questionnaire _CYCLE 55.pdf*
Size: 156KB
Description: This is the English version of the questionnaire.
3. *NAWS_ Instrumento _CICLO 55.pdf*
Size: 171KB
Description: This is the Spanish version of the questionnaire.

While the questionnaire has changed over the years, NAWSPAD is currently standardized to the Fiscal Year 2006 questionnaire. Where possible, differences in response categories have been harmonized to create continuous data series.

¹ The 55 cycles correspond to Fiscal Years 1989-2006. Cycles 1 to 4 were conducted in Fiscal Year 1989 and three cycles were conducted in each subsequent year FY1990-FY2006

Excel Files

Variable names occupy row one, FWID being the last. Each row below row one corresponds to an interviewed farm worker, beginning with subject 1989001.

1. *crt155pub.xls*
Size: 30,454KB
Contents: created variables for cycles 1 to 55
2. *naws155pub.xls*
Size: 70,735KB
Contents: questionnaire variables for cycles 1 to 55.
3. *naws_all.xls*
Size: 99,258
Contents: created and questionnaire variables for cycles 1 to 55.

SAS Files

1. *crt155pub.sas7bdat*
Size: 22,593KB
Contents: created variables for cycles 1 to 55.
2. *naws155pub.sas7bdat*
Size: 49,697KB
Contents: questionnaire variables for cycles 1 to 55.
3. *naws_all.sas7bdat*
Size: 74,545KB
Contents: created and questionnaire variables for cycles 1 to 55.