

Survey on Housing and Transportation for Agricultural Workers in Mendocino County



CALIFORNIA
INSTITUTE FOR
RURAL STUDIES

INTRODUCTION

Hello, my name is _____. I work for Nuestra Casa. We offer services to farmworkers and other Latinos in this area. We are conducting a survey for Mendocino County, to identify the housing and transportation needs of agricultural workers and their families, with the goal of improving these services. The survey takes about ½ hour. We are offering a phone card worth \$10 to everyone that participates in they survey to thank you for your time. Everything we discuss is completely confidential, and we will not write down your name. Are you interested in participating in this survey?

1. Where were you born?

¹ Mexico → State: _____

² Other country [*specify*]: _____

³ United States

⁴ No answer



2. Inside of the U.S., where do you usually live, or where is your permanent residence?

¹ Lives **inside** Mendocino County

→ City/town: _____
[GO TO QUESTION 6, ON PAGE 5]

² Lives **outside** Mendocino County

→ City/town: _____

³ No permanent residence, follows the harvests

INTERVIEWER: The following cities and towns are in Mendocino County.

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| • Albion | ? Little River |
| • Anchor Bay | ? Longvale |
| • Boonville | ? Manchester |
| • Branscomb | ? Mendocino |
| • Calpella | ? Navarro |
| • Caspar | ? Noyo |
| • Cleone | ? Old Hopland |
| • Comptche | ? Philo |
| • Covelo | ? Point Arena |
| • Dos Rios | ? Potter Valley |
| • Elk | ? Redwood Valley |
| • Fort Bragg | ? Rockport |
| • Gualala | ? Talmage |
| • Hopland | ? Ukiah |
| • Inglenook | ? Willits |
| • Laytonville | ? Westport |
| • Leggett | ? Yorkville |

For more information, see the map of Mendocino County at the end of the survey.

3. During the week, while you work in Mendocino County, where do you live?

¹ Returns to permanent residence

² Stays somewhere else **inside** Mendocino County

→ City/town: _____
[GO TO QUESTION 6, ON PAGE 5]

³ Stays somewhere else **outside** Mendocino County

→ City/town: _____

4. Why don't you stay in Mendocino County while working here?
[CHECK ALL THAT APPLY]

¹ Has a house or stays with family/friends somewhere else and can travel to Mendocino County from there

² Can't find anywhere to stay in Mendocino County

³ Too expensive to live in Mendocino County

⁴ Other [specify]: _____

⁵ Don't know/No answer

5. Would you prefer to live in Mendocino County if it were possible?

Yes

No

Don't know/No answer

The following questions have to do with the place you stay during the week, while working in Mendocino County, that is... **[CONFIRM PLACE]**

6. Do you live on the farm where you work?

- Yes No No answer

7. In what type of housing do you live? **[READ OPTIONS AND CHECK THE ONE THAT BEST APPLIES]**

- ¹ Room, rented from owner
² House
³ Apartment
⁴ Garage, attached to or separate from the house
⁵ Trailer
⁶ Motel
⁷ Labor camp
⁸ Car, tent, homeless shelter, street, etc.

→ *Specify:* _____

⁹ Other [*describe*]: _____

¹⁰ No answer

8. Do you have the following amenities where you live?

A. Hot running water	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
B. Cold running water	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
C. Flush toilet	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
D. Bath or shower	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
E. Stove	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
F. Refrigerator	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
G. Central heat (not space heater)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
H. Air conditioner or swamp cooler	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

9. How many bedrooms are there in the place where you stay while working in Mendocino County?

10. How many rooms are there in total, including the living room, kitchen, dining room, etc., but not counting bathrooms, hallways and garages?

11. Does anyone sleep in any rooms in addition to the bedrooms?

Yes → Which other rooms are used for sleeping? [**CHECK ALL THAT APPLY**]

Living room Dining room Kitchen Hallway Garage

Other [specify]: _____

No

12. Do you have...

A. Spouse/partner:

Yes No

B. Children under 18 (yours or your partner's):

Yes No

13. Who do you currently live with – that is, in the place where you stay while working in Mendocino County? Please, include **everyone** that lives at this site, whether you know them or not. **[READ OPTIONS, CHECK ALL THAT APPLY]**

		How Many?
A. Spouse or partner	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
B. Children <u>under</u> 18 (yours or your partner's)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
C. Children <u>over</u> 18 (yours or your partner's)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
D. Your parents (or your partner's)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
E. Other relatives	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
F. Other non-relatives	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

14. Thinking about the place where you live while working in Mendocino County, do you rent it, own it, get it free from your employer or stay for free with friends/family?

- ¹ Rent [GO TO Q15]
- ² Own [GO TO Q18]
- ³ Free from employer [GO TO Q22]
- ⁴ Stay for free with friends/family [GO TO Q22]

IF RENT...

15. What is the **total** cost of the rent, for the entire dwelling?

\$_____ per ? day ? week ? month

No answer

16. What is the portion of the rent that **you** pay?

\$_____ per ? day ? week ? month

No answer

17. Who is included in the rent that you pay? [MARK ALL THAT APPLY]

- ¹ Interviewee
- ² Spouse/partner
- ³ Child(ren) under 18 (yours or your partner's) → # _____
- ⁴ Child(ren) over 18 (yours or your partner's) → # _____
- ⁵ Other people for whom you pay the rent → # _____

[GO TO Q22]

IF OWNER...

18. What is the monthly mortgage for the **entire** dwelling, not including taxes and insurance?

\$ _____

No answer

19. What is the portion of the mortgage that **you** pay?

\$ _____

No answer

20. Who is included in the mortgage that you pay? **[MARK ALL THAT APPLY]**

¹ Interviewee

² Spouse/partner

³ Child(ren) under 18 (yours or your partner's) → # _____

⁴ Child(ren) over 18 (yours or your partner's) → # _____

⁵ Other people for whom you pay the mortgage → # _____

21. Do you receive any income from renters?

Yes → How much? \$ _____ per day week month

Don't know/No answer

No

22. How much do you pay each month for the following utilities?

A. Electricity and gas (PG&E)	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Nothing, included in rent	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know
B. Water	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Nothing, included in rent	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know

OR, IF PAID ALL TOGETHER:

Electricity, gas, and water	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Nothing, included in rent	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know
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EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME

Now, I'd like to ask you some questions about your current job.

23. Approximately how much did **you** earn last year?

\$ _____

Don't know/No answer

24. Do you have a spouse/partner that lives with you?

Yes → Approximately how much did your **spouse/partner** earn last year?

\$ _____

Don't know/No answer

No

25. Did you send any money to relatives in Mexico [or your country of origin] during the past 12 months?

Yes → How much did you send last month?

\$ _____ Don't know/No answer

→ How much did you send during the past 12 months?

\$ _____ Don't know/No answer

No

Don't know/No answer

26. We are interested in learning more about the different jobs that you have had in the last twelve months. Can you tell me the names of all the employers that you have had in the last year, starting with your current employer...

What is the name of your...?	What was the main type of work that you did?	Did you work in Mendocino County?
Current Employer:		
Previous Employer:	<input type="checkbox"/> Farm work <input type="checkbox"/> Forestry <input type="checkbox"/> Non-farm work	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Previous Employer:	<input type="checkbox"/> Farm work <input type="checkbox"/> Forestry <input type="checkbox"/> Non-farm work	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Previous Employer:	<input type="checkbox"/> Farm work <input type="checkbox"/> Forestry <input type="checkbox"/> Non-farm work	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Previous Employer:	<input type="checkbox"/> Farm work <input type="checkbox"/> Forestry <input type="checkbox"/> Non-farm work	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Previous Employer:	<input type="checkbox"/> Farm work <input type="checkbox"/> Forestry <input type="checkbox"/> Non-farm work	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

HOUSING PROBLEMS

Now, I'd like to ask you some questions about housing problems you may have had.

27. Have you, any family member, or someone with whom you have lived had any of the following problems in the last year? **[READ OPTIONS, CHECK ALL THAT APPLY]**

[IF RESPONDENT IS A HOMEOWNER, GO TO C]

A. You asked the owner to make repairs and s/he took a long time or refused to make the repairs	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
B. You were refused housing because you didn't have money for the deposit	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
C. You were denied the chance to rent housing or to obtain a mortgage for being a farmworker or relative of a farmworker	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
D. You couldn't pay the rent or mortgage because someone you lived with couldn't pay their part	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
E. You suffered high levels of stress due to lack of privacy in your dwelling	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
F. You had health problems due to dampness or mold in your dwelling	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

28. In the last twelve months, while working in agriculture in Mendocino County, have you had any other housing problems?

Yes

→ Which? *[describe]* _____

No

Don't know/No answer

29. In the past 12 months, while working in agriculture in Mendocino County, did you ever have to spend less on food or health care in order to pay the rent or mortgage?

Yes

No

Don't know/No answer

30. Have you heard of programs that offer reduced rent or rental assistance for low income people? For example, HUD, Section 8, public housing for farmworkers, emergency rental assistance, or homeless shelters.

Yes

No

Don't know/No answer

TRANSPORTATION

Mendocino County would like to set up vans to take farmworkers from their homes to where they work. To plan effective routes, it is necessary to know where farmworkers live and where they work.

31. Can you tell me the address of where you live during the week while you work in Mendocino County?

A. House number: _____

B. Street/Avenue: _____

C. Nearest cross street: _____

D. Name of apartment complex: _____

E. City/Town: _____

F. Additional notes: _____

IF LIVE ON FARM:

What is the name of the farm where you live? _____

What is the address of the farm?

A. Number: _____

B. Street/Avenue: _____

C. Nearest cross street: _____

D. City/Town: _____

E. Additional notes: _____

32. Where is the field where you worked today located?

Name of the farm: _____

Approximate location:

A. Number: _____

B. Street/Avenue: _____

C. Nearest cross street: _____

D. City/Town: _____

E. Additional notes: _____

33. Thinking of two other sites where you've done agricultural work in the last month, where are they located?

Always works at the same location

or

Location # 1:

Name of farm: _____

Approximate location:

A. Number: _____

B. Street/Avenue: _____

C. Nearest cross street: _____

D. City/Town: _____

E. Additional notes: _____

Location #2:

Name of farm: _____

Approximate location:

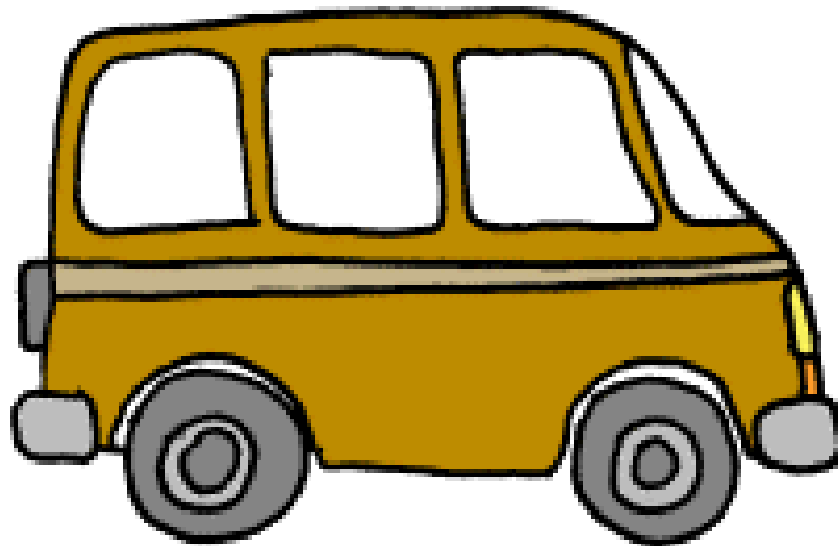
A. Number: _____

B. Street/Avenue: _____

C. Nearest cross street: _____

D. City/Town: _____

E. Additional notes: _____



34. How do you get to work? [CHECK ALL THAT APPLY]

- Own vehicle (car, pickup, motorcycle) → Do you take other people?
 - Yes → How much do you charge for a ride (one way)? \$ _____
→ How do you calculate the cost of the ride? _____
 - No
- Ride → Who do you ride with?
 - Friend/family
 - Supervisor, contractor o farmer
 - Other “raitero”
 - Other: _____
- Bus or van operated by farm
- Public bus
- Bicycle or walk
- Other [specify]: _____

35. How much do you spend traveling to work, round trip?

- \$_____ per day week month
- Don't know/No answer

36. How long does it take you to get to work from the place you stay during the week while working in Mendocino County (one way)?

- _____ hours _____ minutes
- Don't know/No answer

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

I have a few last questions for you. I'd like to remind you that everything we discuss is completely confidential, and that you do not have to answer any questions you would prefer not to answer.

37. How old are you? _____

38. In which year did you come to work in the U.S. for the first time? _____

39. In which year did you come to work in Mendocino County for the first time?

40. Do you speak any indigenous languages (such as Mixteco, Zapoteco, etc.)?

Yes → Which? _____

No

41. What is your residency status in the United States?

¹ Documented

² Undocumented

³ Documents in process

⁴ No answer

42. What are the most important factors you consider when seeking housing in or near Mendocino County?

43. In your opinion, what are the most important things that could be done to improve housing and transportation for farmworkers in Mendocino County? List what you see as the three most important improvements that could be made.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

44. INTERVIEWER - NOTE RESPONDENT'S GENDER:

¹ Male ² Female

45. INTERVIEWER, CONFIRM THE NAME OF THE EMPLOYER OF THE INTERVIEWEE

Those are all the questions I have for you. Thank you very much for participating in this survey. Do you have any questions or comments?

INTERVIEWER: PROVIDE \$10 PHONE CARD AND ASK RESPONDENT TO SIGN RECEIPT. ALSO, PROVIDE INFORMATION SHEET ABOUT HOUSING RESOURCES.

INTERVIEWER, PLEASE FILL OUT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

Name of interviewer: _____

Date of interview: _____

Notes/comments:

MENDOCINO COUNTY COMMUNITIES

