New Wave of Chinese Immigration. One of the many difficulties involved in completing the transcontinental railroad was the problem of finding laborers willing to take on the dangerous, back-breaking work. In 1865, the Central Pacific Railroad turned to Chinese workers, who soon comprised two-thirds of the railroad's labor force. California's booming agricultural economy created an endless need for farm labor. Although family farming was typical in the Midwest, California agriculture was dominated by large-scale industrial farming, and huge numbers of migratory workers were hired and fired each year. It lasted two months and won the workers a pay hike, but the new union dissolved after the AFL refused to recognize it. Immigration, and births to new immigrants, will continue to fuel California's population growth, not just in the urban areas but in the cities and towns of rural counties. Local communities will face a wide range of social and economic changes as they adapt to increasing population diversity. As we enter a new... Agriculture is a major employer in California. Some 800,000 to 900,000 people work for wages at some time during a typical year on California farms. Only about half of those work year-round so that farmworkers represent just 3% of California's average 14 million wage and salary workers. Most The new rural poverty: Central Valley evolving into patchwork of poverty and prosperity. Taylor, J. Edward. Martin, Philip L. Agricultural Development and Economic Transformation: Promoting Growth with Poverty Reduction (Palgrave Studies in Agricultural Economics and Food Policy) 1st ed. 2017 Edition. by John W. Mellor (Author). The new issue of California Agriculture features research on groundwater recharge, peach and nectarine marketing orders, strawberry cultivar selection, and more. We also have news on the challenges faced by agritourism operators in California, and the effect COVID-19 is having on food systems and youth development programs. Check it out at http://calag.ucanr.edu/ California Agriculture journal. 1994). In rural California, the growth in immigration is generally believed to be a direct result of the restructuring of agriculture (Krissman 1995; Palerm 1991). This includes greater integration of farms into the control of agribusiness corporations, a shift from owner-operated farms to hired-labor corporations, and peripheralization of the labor force through the use of immigrant farm laborers hired through farm-labor contractors. However, as the entire population of rural communities in California is used for analysis, tests of statistical significance are unnecessary; thus, misestimation of standard errors is not a concern. 2 The census of agriculture is taken every five years, including 1982, 1987, and 1992.