

# U.S. National Pulse on Infectious Diseases among Farmworkers

*Keeping a pulse on the health of farmworkers in the U.S.*

## Monthly Data & Research Round-up

July 2023

The purpose of the National Pulse Research Round-up is to systematically collect and share current media stories and research about issues and trends concerning COVID-19, influenza, and other emerging infectious diseases among farmworkers in the U.S. The Research Round-up includes insights from recent data collection efforts with farmworkers and a summary of recent research and media articles published.

### **NCFH Data Collection Updates: Farmworker COVID-19 Community Assessments (FCCAs)**

During the month of July, NCFH conducted the last FCCA for Phase 3 of the project. The assessment was conducted in Marion County, Oregon between July 29 – 30 and concluded the quantitative data collection activities for this Phase.

A total of 341 farmworkers were surveyed in Marion County, Oregon, including 48 H-2A guest workers. Of the survey respondents, 285 reported having received at least one COVID-19 vaccination dose (84%). Additionally, 163 (48%) reported having received a flu vaccine in the last 12 months, and 266 (78%) reported ever receiving an MMR vaccine at some point in their life.

Qualitative interviews with key informants from Michigan shed light on a variety of barriers to health care access and risk factors for contracting infectious diseases among farmworkers.

*“COVID-19, and any kind of communicable disease, is very hard to keep workers safe because very typically they have very dense living quarters and very close transportation. So, if they have their own vehicles, it's different. But if they're working as an H-2A worker, for example, they're all bussed on the same bus. And during the entire COVID-19 [pandemic], there were only 1% of the farms that were complying with any sort of safety measures.”*

*-Local expert*

*“Female farmworkers who don't have proper access [to healthcare] will often get a UTI, urinary tract infection, and it might lead to something more serious and might be causing kidney damage or something to that effect.”*

*-Local expert*

Be on the look-out later this summer for a Phase 3 report summary for all five FCCA communities for Phase 3: Hillsborough County, FL; Cameron, Hidalgo, and Starr counties, TX; Oceana County, MI; Fresno County, CA; Marion County, OR.

To learn more about NCFH's Farmworker COVID-19 Community Assessments, [CLICK HERE](#).

## Media Articles

[Poll Shows Strong Support for a Food and Farm Bill that Protects Workers](#)

July 18, 2023, Union of Concerned Scientists, The Equation

[Harvard Report: US Meat Supply Could Start the Next Global Pandemic](#)

July 24, 2023, Truthout

[Climate-Related Health Risks Among Workers: Who is at Increased Risk?](#)

June 26, 2023, Kaiser Family Foundation

## Literature List

This section includes journal articles from the previous two months.

[Developing Infographics to Present Research Findings from CBPR to Latinx Farmworker Community Members](#)

Summer 2023

This article provides infographic for farmworkers and their employers in regard to the health of farmworker children and occupational dangers. This article supports the use of infographics to distribute community-based participatory research results to farmworker communities.

[Latino Migrant Farmworker Youths' Perceptions of Access to Care in the Southeast: A Qualitative Approach](#)

June 2023

This study among farmworker youth aged 15-20 years old in Florida and Georgia shows qualitative data collected on how this population access health care. Themes of perceptions include dependency to transportation, cultural related views, lack of knowledge of resources, English language barriers, and work obligation.



**[READ THE NCFH COVID-19 IMPACT ON AGRICULTURAL WORKERS FACT SHEET](#)**

**FOR MORE RESEARCH ARTICLES!**

**(FINAL UPDATE)**