

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

June 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)

Data from the FCCAs conducted in Oceana County, MI and Fresno County, CA during May are being analyzed this month. NCFH will conduct the last two FCCAs of Phase 3 later this summer.

The FCCAs utilize a mixed-methods approach, including an intercept survey and qualitative interviews. Qualitative interviews provide additional context to farmworkers' beliefs and attitudes regarding vaccinations, including one interview participant who explained:

Original: "I had never heard so much of la vacuna, la vacuna, you know, like. So definitely like hay muchas vacunas que son igual de importante usualmente para trabajadores agricolas como tetano que trabaja con la tierra you know like que tiene mucha importancia que aveces no se les dio porque no era una pandemia." -Key informant

Translation: "I had never heard so much of [the vaccine, the vaccine], you know, like. So definitely like hay [there are a lot of vaccines with equal importance usually for farmworkers like tetanus working with the land] you know like [it has a lot of importance but sometimes they don't give it importance because it's not a pandemic]." -Key informant

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

Media Articles

[The epidemiology of COVID-19 outbreaks in farms in Ontario, Canada, in the pre-vaccine year of the pandemic](#)

News-Medical Life Sciences, June 2023

Literature List

This section includes journal articles from the previous two months.

[Notes from the Field: Tetanus in an Unvaccinated Man from Mexico — Oregon, 2022](#)

CDC MMWR, June 2023

“This preventable tetanus case highlights the importance of equitable communication practices in health care settings, vigilance for serious but rare vaccine-preventable diseases, early ascertainment of immunization history, and awareness of possible lower vaccination coverage among migrant populations.”

[Lessons From COVID-19 for Protecting Workers in the Next Pandemic](#)

JAMA Network, June 2023

The authors conclude, “We have an opportunity to learn from the successes and failures of public health efforts to protect workers during the COVID-19 pandemic and build a more robust response to future pandemics. We must encourage and empower OSHA and state and local agencies to craft protective pandemic policies that give workers and employers the tools to create safe and healthy workplaces.”

[Seroepidemiology and risk factors for SARS-CoV-2 infection among household members of food processing and farm workers in North Carolina](#)

IJID Regions, June 2023

“These findings underscore the substantial burden of COVID-19 among a population of mostly Hispanic essential workers and their households in rural North Carolina. This study contributes to a large body of evidence showing that Hispanic Americans have suffered a disproportionate burden of COVID-19. This study also highlights the epidemiologic importance of viral transmission within the household.”



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

FOR MORE RESEARCH ARTICLES!

(FINAL UPDATE)