



# VACCINATION COVERAGE AMONG FARMWORKERS IN SELECTED U.S. COUNTIES in 2022

Created August 2023

Please see our [COVID-19 and H-2A Guest Workers in the Southeastern U.S.](#) fact sheet as well as our [Farmworker COVID-19 Community Assessment \(FCCA\) Reports](#) for more information on COVID-19 vaccination uptake among farmworkers.

## INTRODUCTION

This fact sheet is based on information collected from 1,383 farmworkers participating in Farmworker COVID-19 Community Assessments (FCCAs). The Phase 2 FCCAs were conducted by the National Center for Farmworker Health in 2022 and resided or worked in selected communities in Colquitt County, Georgia; Sampson County North Carolina; Weld County Colorado; Atlantic & Cumberland counties New Jersey, and Yakima County, Washington. Surveys were administered using an establishment-based recruitment and randomized sampling strategy. The data were weighted to adjust for under- or over-sampling of H-2A guest workers in each community, and for the size of the farm labor force in each community. Readers should not generalize these findings to other farmworker communities. Participants were at least 18 years of age, had worked one day or more during the COVID-19 pandemic on a crop or livestock production farm in the U.S., and could be of any immigration status.

## DEMOGRAPHICS

Sixty-six percent of participants were male, and 33% were female. Seventeen percent self-identified as racially or linguistically Indigenous and 83% as non-Indigenous.<sup>1</sup> See Table 1 below for the ages of participants. Most of the farmworkers were between the ages of 26 and 54 (70%). The participants reported several countries of origin, with 84% born in Mexico, 8% born in the United States, including Puerto Rico, and 2% born in countries in Central America (Table 2).

**Table 1: Ages of participants (n = 1,383)**

Ages	Percent
18-25	15%
26-54	70%
55+	13%
No Answer	3%

**Table 2: Countries of origin (n = 1,383)**

Countries of Origin	Percent
Mexico	84%
United States, including Puerto Rico	8%
Central America	2%
Haiti	1%
Other/Did not report	4%

The top languages currently spoken by this sample of respondents included Spanish, English, Mixtec, Zapotec, Nahuatl and Tsotsil (Table 3).

<sup>1</sup> Following the National Agricultural Workers Survey (NAWS) methodology, the Indigenous identified demographic is defined as a respondent who reported having spoken an Indigenous language as a child or speaks an Indigenous language as an adult, or who self-identifies as Indigenous.

**Table 3: Top languages currently spoken (n = 1,383)**

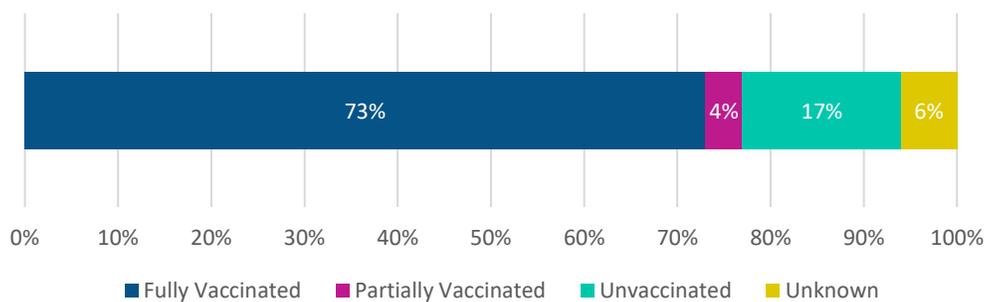
Language	Frequency	Percent*
Spanish	1,356	87%
English	307	22%
Mixtec	24	2%
Nahuatl	22	2%
Zapotec	16	1%
Tsotsil	9	1%

\*Participants could report speaking more than one language, so the numbers will not sum to 100%.

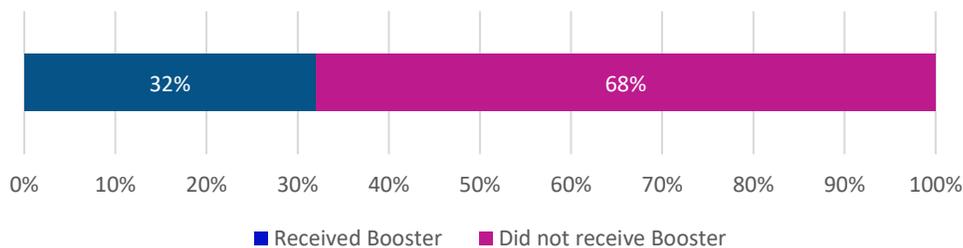
### COVID-19 VACCINATIONS

Most of the participants reported being fully vaccinated<sup>2</sup> against COVID-19 (73%), and 32% had received booster vaccinations. See Figures 1 and 2 below.

**Figure 1: COVID-19 vaccination uptake (n = 1,383)**



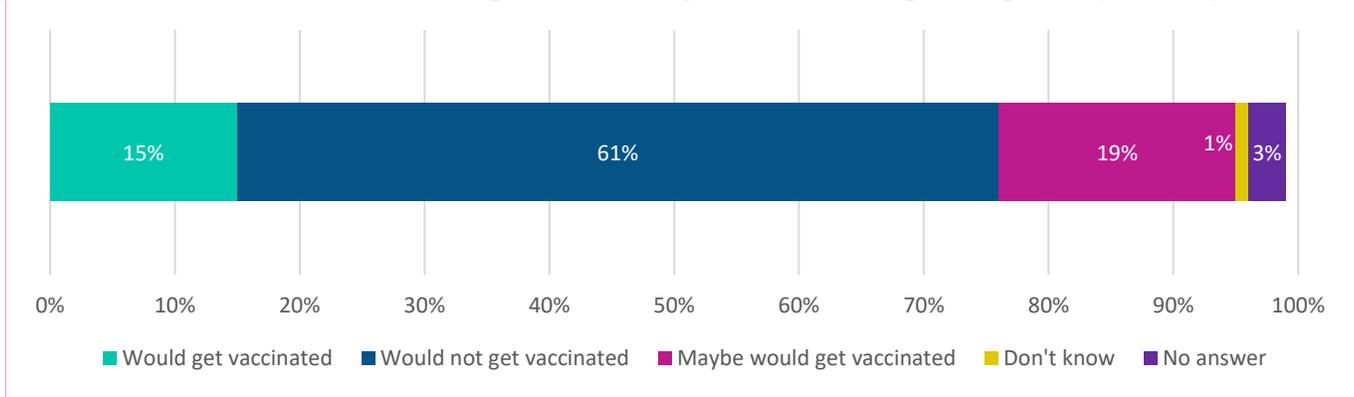
**Figure 2: COVID-19 booster vaccination uptake (n = 1,383)**



Among unvaccinated participants (17% of the total sample), 61% reported that they would not get vaccinated in the future. Fifteen percent of participants said they would get vaccinated in the future, 19% said they may get vaccinated in the future, and 4% did not answer or reported they did not know if they would get vaccinated in the future. See Figure 3 below.

<sup>2</sup> Fully vaccinated includes respondents who received one dose of the Janssen/Johnson and Johnson or Cansino vaccine or two doses of any other COVID-19 vaccine approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration or the World Health Organization.

**Figure 3: COVID-19 vaccination acceptance among unvaccinated participants (n = 238)**



In order to support vaccine campaigns and funding for vaccination among farmworkers, information is provided below on COVID-19 vaccination status for specific subgroups of farmworkers (see Table 4). A higher proportion of non-Indigenous participants (76%) were fully vaccinated against COVID-19 compared to Indigenous participants (56%). A lower proportion of male participants (69%) were fully vaccinated compared to female participants (81%). Overall, the demographic groups of males, Indigenous, and non-migratory farmworkers surveyed had the lowest proportions of reporting being fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

**Table 4: COVID-19 vaccination status by selected demographic indicators (n= 1,383)**

Demographic indicator	Fully vaccinated* (n = 1,008)	Partially vaccinated (n = 57)	Unvaccinated (n = 238)
Sex			
Female	81%	2%	15%
Male	69%	5%	18%
Indigenous identity**			
Indigenous	56%	3%	30%
Non-Indigenous	76%	4%	15%
Migrated for work***			
Migrated	75%	5%	13%
Did not migrate	72%	4%	19%

\*Fully vaccinated includes respondents who received one dose of the Janssen/Johnson and Johnson or Cansino vaccine, or two doses of any other COVID-19 vaccine approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration or the World Health Organization

\*\* Following the National Agricultural Workers Survey (NAWS) methodology, the Indigenous identified demographic is defined as a respondent who reported having spoken an Indigenous language as a child or speaks an Indigenous language as an adult, or who self – identifies as Indigenous.

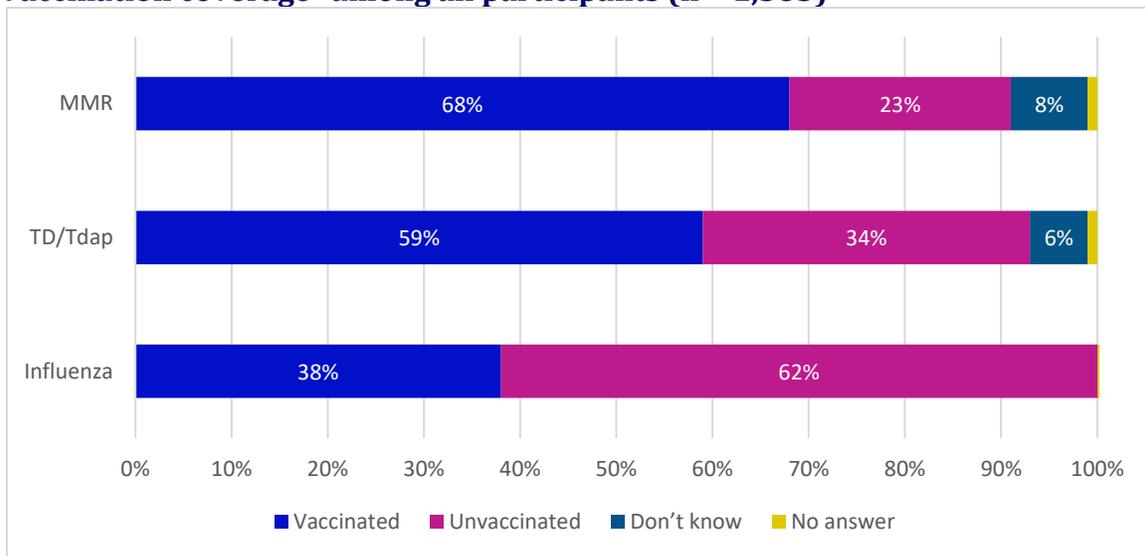
\*\*\*Migrating for work was defined as working in agriculture in a place different than the interview location for one week or more. All H-2A guest workers were automatically classified as migratory.

### VACCINATIONS COVERAGE FOR INFLUENZA, MEASLES/MUMPS/RUBELLA, AND TETANUS/DIPHTHERIA/PERTUSSIS AMONG FARMWORKERS

Among all participants, 68% reported having been immunized for measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) at some point in their lifetime (Figure 4). Just over half (59%) of farmworker participants reported receiving the TD or

Tdap vaccination in the past 10 years. Only 38% of participants reported receiving an influenza vaccine in the past 12 months, the lowest uptake among the three vaccinations.

**Figure 4: Vaccination coverage<sup>3</sup> among all participants (n = 1,383)**



Lower proportions of male, Indigenous, and migratory workers were reported for most adult vaccinations as compared to female, non-Indigenous and non-migratory workers, similar to the findings on COVID-19 vaccine uptake. A slightly higher proportion of male participants and Indigenous participants reported receiving the MMR vaccine compared to female participants and non-Indigenous participants, respectively. See Table 5.

**Table 5: Adult vaccination uptake by demographic indicators (n = 1,383)**

Demographic indicator	Received influenza vaccine in past 12 months (n = 519)	Received TD/Tdap vaccine in past 10 years (n = 814)	Received MMR vaccine in lifetime (n = 934)
Sex			
Female	51%	62%	67%
Male	31%	58%	68%
Indigenous identity*			
Indigenous	31%	50%	71%
Non-Indigenous	39%	61%	67%
Migrated for work**			
Migrated	36%	60%	68%
Did not migrate	38%	58%	67%

\* Following the National Agricultural Workers Survey (NAWS) convention, NCFH created a composite metric to identify Indigenous respondents, utilizing a combination of responses from language spoken as a child and currently as an adult, or racially identifying as Indigenous.

\*\*Migrating for work was defined as working in agriculture in a place different than the interview location for one week or more. All H-2A guest workers were automatically classified as migratory.

<sup>3</sup> Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) percentages include those reported as vaccinated if they had received the vaccine at least once in their lifetime. TD/Tdap vaccinated status refers to if they reported having the vaccine in the past 10 years. Flu vaccinated refers to if they reported receiving the vaccine in the past 12 months.