

2021 Migrant Farmworker Health Survey, Ottawa County, MI

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Executive Summary



Background



Methodology



Findings & Implications



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INTRODUCTION

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Background and Objectives

- VIP Research and Evaluation was contracted by the Ottawa County Department of Public Health to conduct a health survey with the adult migrant farmworker subpopulation in Ottawa County in 2021.
- The overall objective of the research was to obtain information from Ottawa County migrant farmworkers about a wide range of issues and behaviors that affect their health. More specific objectives include measuring each of the following:
 - ❖ Physical health indicators, such as perception of general health, physical health status, chronic pain, hypertension, cholesterol, and weight (BMI)
 - ❖ Mental health indicators, such as mental health status, anxiety disorder, and depressive disorder
 - ❖ Health risk behaviors, such as smoking, vaping, alcohol consumption, and diet
 - ❖ Clinical preventative measures, such as oral health, cancer screenings, and immunizations
 - ❖ Chronic conditions, such as diabetes, pre-diabetes, asthma, COPD, and arthritis
 - ❖ Health care access and any barriers to care
 - ❖ Social support
 - ❖ Community connectedness
 - ❖ Use of pesticides and any side effects
 - ❖ COVID-19 and its impact on migrant farmworkers

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Background and Objectives (Continued)

- The information collected will be used to:
 - ❖ Prioritize health issues and develop strategic plans
 - ❖ Monitor the effectiveness of intervention measures
 - ❖ Examine the achievement of prevention program goals
 - ❖ Support appropriate public health policy
 - ❖ Educate the migrant farmworker subpopulation about disease prevention through dissemination of information

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Methodology

- A health survey was conducted among 319 Ottawa County adult migrant farmworkers (age 18+).
 - ❖ The survey modeled after the Behavioral Risk Factor Survey (BRFS) and was available online or in paper format
 - ❖ It was also available in Spanish and English
- Bilingual research assistants and county health department employees visited agricultural camps, or farms, in Ottawa County and approached migrant farmworkers about the possibility of participating in the survey and offered them a \$30 Walmart gift card as an incentive.
- Some surveys were also administered at various events (e.g., COVID-19 vaccine clinic, church fiesta) or through various agencies (e.g., Department of Human Services, Migrant Legal Aid).
- Data was collected between May 21, 2021 and September 22, 2021.
- Respondents were screened to ensure they were at least 18 years of age and resided in Ottawa County.
- Unless noted, consistent with the Michigan BRFS, respondents who refused to answer a question or did not know the answer to a specific question were excluded from analysis for that question. Thus, the base sizes vary throughout the report because results are based on valid responses.

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 **Methodology (Continued)**

➤ Some of the agricultural farms or camps visited include the following:

- ❖ 112th Avenue Nunica Camp
- ❖ Dekker Farms
- ❖ First Pick Farms
- ❖ Peterson Farms
- ❖ Quincy Camp
- ❖ Reender's Farms
- ❖ Spring Meadow Nursery
- ❖ St. Francis/West Olive Camp
- ❖ Woodland Blueberries

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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Executive Summary

- In 2021, the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) is still impacting people physically, emotionally, and economically, albeit not as disruptively as 2020.
- Almost all (96.2%) migrant farmworkers take precautions in response to the COVID pandemic, including wearing masks, washing and sanitizing hands, avoiding public or crowded places, and keeping six feet distance from members outside their households.
- Two-thirds (64.8%) of migrant farmworkers have been vaccinated for COVID-19.
 - ❖ Of those who haven't been vaccinated, 45.9% say they are not likely to get the vaccine in the future
- Although half (48.9%) report their lives remained unchanged by the pandemic, 36.6% say their lives worsened.
 - ❖ These proportions are consistent with the general population who was asked this question in 2020 at the height of the pandemic
 - ❖ There are myriad ways in which the pandemic has negatively impacted migrant farmworkers' lives, including the inability to socialize with family and friends, contributing to mental health issues (e.g., depression), feelings of loss of freedom, the economic impact (job loss, move from job to job), and the division it has created between family, friends, and strangers

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Executive Summary (Continued)

- For the 14.5% who say the pandemic has actually made their lives better, they focus on people being more careful, cautious, and clean, increased time spent with their families, and having more work opportunities.
 - ❖ Some mention that the Hispanic community is receiving more external help now than before the COVID-19 pandemic
- Nearly nine in ten (88.2%) area adult migrant farmworkers report their health as good or better, while 11.8% report their health as fair or poor; this is on par with the general population from 2020.
- Physical health status is very good among migrant farmworkers; only 3.9% are considered to have "poor physical health," compared to 9.4% of the general population.
- The prevalence of some chronic diseases are much lower among migrant farmworkers compared to the general population. For example:
 - ❖ Arthritis – 4.8% among migrant farmworkers, 30.1% among general population
 - ❖ Lifetime asthma – 6.7% among migrant farmworkers, 15.3% among general population
 - ❖ Current asthma – 3.9% among migrant farmworkers, 7.9% among general population
 - ❖ COPD – 0.6% among migrant farmworkers, 3.7% among general population
 - ❖ Chronic pain – 11.4% among migrant farmworkers, 32.5% among general population

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Executive Summary (Continued)

- Of note, 38.2% of migrant farmworkers with chronic pain say their pain is managed well, compared to 79.4% for the general population.
 - ❖ For migrant farmworkers, the top barriers to treating their pain are lack of health insurance and transportation issues
- One in nine (10.8%) migrant farmworkers has diabetes and 8.0% have pre-diabetes; both of these proportions are on par with the general population.
- One in six (15.7%) migrant farmworkers has high blood pressure; of these, half (51.1%) are taking medication for it.
- Almost one-fourth (23.5%) have high blood cholesterol, and of these, 40.7% are taking medication for it.
- Migrant farmworkers are more overweight and obese than the general population per their BMI.
 - ❖ 40.8% of migrant farmworkers are obese, compared to 34.5% of the general population
 - ❖ Additionally, 33.1% of migrant farmworkers are overweight, compared to 31.9% of the general population

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Executive Summary (Continued)

- Culturally, migrant farmworkers may be more accepting of their weight status because, despite 73.9% being overweight or obese, 47.1% believe they are “about the right weight,” and only 39.0% are currently trying to lose, or keep from gaining, weight.
 - ❖ Further, 34.4% of overweight and 61.9% of obese migrant farmworkers are trying to lose weight, compared to 74.8% and 86.6% of the general population, respectively
- Similarly to physical health, migrant farmworkers fare better in terms of their mental health. For example, 3.9% of migrant farmworkers have “poor mental health,” compared to 15.3% of the general population. Additionally:
 - ❖ 7.7% have been diagnosed with anxiety, compared to 22.9% of the general population
 - ❖ 9.0% have been diagnosed with depression, compared to 21.8% of the general population
- A very small percentage (2.3%) of migrant farmworkers have been limited from their usual activities due to poor physical or mental health; a rate lower than the general population (7.0%).

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Executive Summary (Continued)

- As in the general population, an area of opportunity continues to exist for local health professionals to formulate a plan to address the fact that sizeable proportions of migrant farmworkers with mental health challenges do not take medication or receive treatment for their condition.
 - ❖ For example, only one-third (33.3%) of migrant farmworkers who have poor mental health currently take medication or receive treatment for it
 - ❖ Moreover, about half migrant farmworkers with anxiety (52.2%) or depression (55.6%) take medication or receive treatment for these mental health issues
- It is surprising that so few migrant farmworkers engage in treatment or medication for mental health conditions considering the vast majority (85.0%) believe treatment can help people with mental illness lead normal lives.
 - ❖ Reluctance to seek treatment or take medication might result from a perceived stigma attached to the label of mental illness
 - One in five (21.3%) migrant farmworkers view people as not “caring and sympathetic to people with mental illness”

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Executive Summary (Continued)

- Two-thirds (68.9%) of migrant farmworkers have no health care coverage, compared to 8.2% of the general population.
 - ❖ The vast majority of those with coverage have either Medicaid (47.0%) or a plan at work or through a union (38.6%)
 - ❖ The top barrier to having coverage is lack of knowledge as to where to go to get/apply for insurance
- Among migrant farmworkers, almost one-fourth (23.3%) had to forgo a needed doctor visit in the past year due to cost; this proportion was 8.6% for the general population
 - ❖ Additionally, 29.6% report having to delay needed medical care in the past year
 - ❖ The top reasons cited for delay in getting care are lack of transportation, inability to get an appointment, and cost
- One in six (17.5%) Ottawa County migrant farmworkers have visited an urgent care center or emergency room (ER) in the past year.
 - ❖ This proportion was 36.6% in the general population in 2020

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Executive Summary (Continued)

- Migrant farmworkers face more challenges when trying to understand their health care, and this is largely due to the language barrier.
 - ❖ Whereas, 84.8% of the general population rarely or never have trouble learning about their health condition because of difficulty understanding written information, this drops to 43.4% for migrant farmworkers
 - ❖ Also, 87.5% of the general population rarely/never have difficulty understanding written or verbal information from their health care provider, compared to 40.6% for migrant farmworkers
- The prevalence of cigarette smoking among migrant farmworkers is 11.7%, and this is lower than the general population (14.3%).
 - ❖ The proportion of former smokers is also much lower among migrant farmworkers (4.5%) than the general population (25.0%)
- The prevalence of e-cigarette or vaping device use is also lower than general population; 2.7% vs. 6.1%.
- Three-fourths (74.2%) of migrant farmworkers are considered to be non-drinkers; a rate almost twice that of the general population (36.9%). Also, 20.3% of migrant farmworkers are light to moderate drinkers, compared to 54.5% for the general population.

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Executive Summary (Continued)

- Not surprisingly, the prevalence of heavy drinking is lower among migrant farmworkers (5.5%) than the general population (8.5%).
 - ❖ On the other hand, the prevalence of binge drinking is the same for both migrant farmworkers and the general population – 17.5%
- Migrant farmworkers, like the general population, consume inadequate amounts of fruits and vegetables per day.
 - ❖ 26.9% and 34.1% consume less than one serving of fruits and vegetables per day, respectively
 - ❖ One in five (19.1%) migrant farmworkers consume adequate amounts of fruits and vegetables per day (five or more servings).
 - ❖ Migrant farmworkers may be unaware of what is considered adequate fruit and vegetable consumption since 61.9% say they do eat fruits and vegetables on a regular basis
- Almost all migrant farmworkers report that they always have enough to eat (86.6%), although 19.7% have had to cut the size of, or skip, meals because of lack of money.
- Over half (53.6%) of the migrant farmworkers have used a food pantry to help meet their food needs.
 - ❖ Although half (51.5%) of those who don't use food pantries say they don't need them, 24.8% say they aren't aware that they exist

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Executive Summary (Continued)

- Only 26.1% of migrant farmworkers have a medical home (have a personal care provider), compared to 88.1% for the general population.
- More than one-third (38.6%) of migrant farmworkers have visited a doctor in the past year for a routine check-up, but this is much lower than the general population (81.3% in 2017).
- Two-thirds (64.9%) have not visited a dentist in the past year to have their teeth cleaned; general population is 22.6%
 - ❖ Three in ten (30.6%) migrant farmworkers have had problems getting needed dental care in the past year
 - ❖ The top reason cited, by far, for the difficulty in accessing needed dental care is the lack of insurance, followed by language barrier, and unavailability of dentists/dental hygienists
- One-third (32.1%) of migrant farmworkers have had a flu shot within the past year; much lower than 54.2% of the general population.
- Almost half (47.2%) of migrant farmworkers have never had their blood cholesterol checked.

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Executive Summary (Continued)

- Across the board, migrant farmworkers have lower rates of cancer screenings than the general population.
 - ❖ Mammogram (ever) – 76.9% migrant farmworkers, 94.2% general population
 - ❖ Mammogram (timely) – 29.2% migrant farmworkers, 55.7% general population
 - ❖ Pap test (ever) – 78.8% migrant farmworkers, 92.1% general population
 - ❖ Pap test (timely) – 60.2% migrant farmworkers, 63.8% general population
 - ❖ Sigmoidoscopy/colonoscopy (ever) – 40.7% migrant farmworkers, 85.4% general population
 - ❖ Sigmoidoscopy/colonoscopy (timely) – 35.7% migrant farmworkers, 61.8% general population
- Unlike the general population, migrant farmworkers have far fewer people that can rely on for practical help; whereas 77.0% of the general population could rely on four or more people, only 14.4% of migrant farmworkers could rely on that many.
 - ❖ In fact, 29.9% of migrant farmworkers say they could rely on nobody, and 19.6% could rely on only one person
 - ❖ Reaching outside their circle of friends and family would be highly uncommon (68.3%)

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Executive Summary (Continued)

- For the most part, migrant farmworkers feel included and welcomed in Ottawa County.
 - ❖ 77.5% believe Ottawa County is inclusive or welcoming of all people
 - ❖ 76.4% personally feel included or welcomed in Ottawa County
 - ❖ 80.8% personally feel respected or valued in Ottawa County, and
 - ❖ 65.7% personally feel connected to Ottawa County
- Area migrant farmworkers discussed many things that would help them feel more connected to their Ottawa County community, including a huge need for more information in Spanish about where local programs and services are located, preferably at the camps/farms. Also, having programs or services open during non-working hours, providing more public transportation, and less discrimination against Latinos/Hispanics, would all help increased connectedness.
- About half (47.0%) of migrant farmworkers find it difficult to deal with daily situations because of their limited English skills
- One in nine (11.1%) have experienced discrimination in Ottawa County at various places such as stores, schools, and bands, or from employers, co-workers, neighbors, and the police.

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Executive Summary (Continued)

- In terms of health disparities with the migrant farmworker subpopulation, we only examined the differences between men and women and between age groups.
- In many cases, there is a direct relationship between health outcomes and age. For example, negative outcomes are more often associated with younger migrant workers, such as:
 - ❖ Having anxiety
 - ❖ No health care coverage and having no personal health care provider
 - ❖ Risk behaviors such as smoking cigarettes and binge drinking
 - ❖ No routine physical exam in past year
 - ❖ No, or limited, cancer screenings
 - ❖ No flu vaccine
- In other cases, negative outcomes are more associated with older adult groups, such as:
 - ❖ Fair or poor general health status, poor physical health, poor mental health, and activity limitation
 - ❖ Having chronic diseases like diabetes, pre-diabetes, and arthritis
 - ❖ Having chronic pain
 - ❖ Having high blood pressure and high blood cholesterol

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Executive Summary (Continued)

➤ There are links between health outcomes and gender among the migrant subpopulation. For example:

- ❖ Men are more likely than women to:
 - Be at a healthy weight
 - Engage in risk behaviors such as smoking, binge drinking, eating fewer fruits and vegetables
 - Lack health insurance or a personal health care provider
- ❖ Women are more likely than men to:
 - Perceive their general health as fair or poor
 - Have hypertension and high blood cholesterol
 - Have poor mental health, anxiety, and depression
 - Be obese
 - Have chronic conditions such as diabetes, pre-diabetes, asthma, arthritis, and chronic pain
 - Lack health care coverage
 - Forgo health care due to cost
 - Visit a doctor for a routine check-up
 - Get a flu vaccine
 - Be screened for colon cancer

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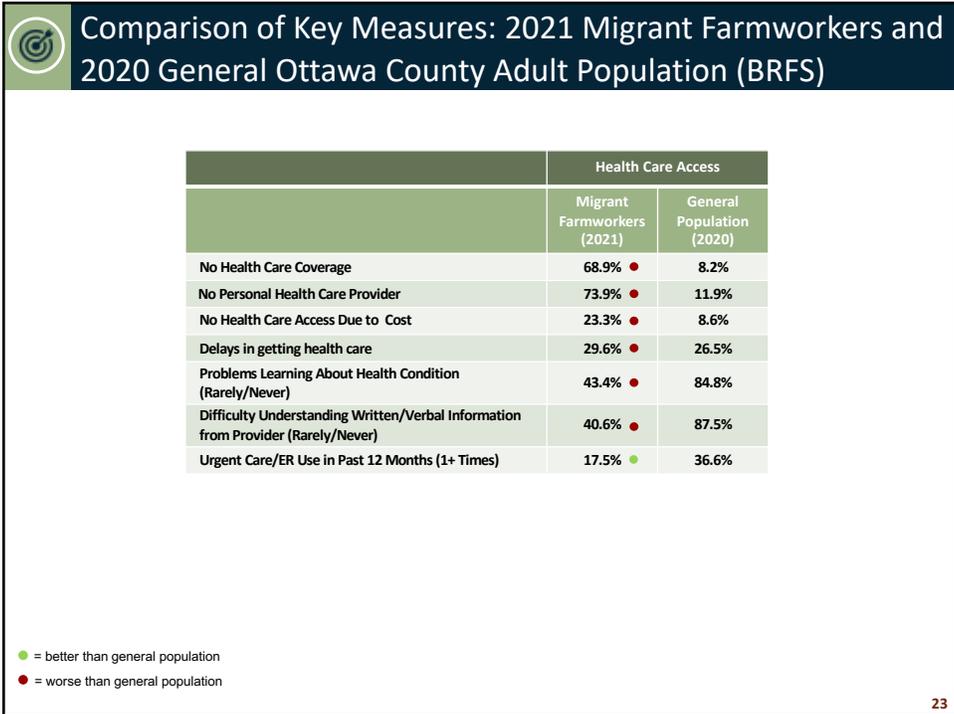
Comparison of Key Measures: 2021 Migrant Farmworkers and 2020 General Ottawa County Adult Population (BRFS)

	Health Status Indicators	
	Migrant Farmworkers (2021)	General Population (2020)
General Health Fair/Poor	11.8% ●	13.2%
Poor Physical Health (14+ days)	3.9% ●	9.4%
Poor Mental Health (14+ days)	3.9% ●	15.3%
Activity Limitation (14+ days)	2.3% ●	7.0%
Obese	40.8% ●	34.5%
Overweight	33.1% ●	31.9%
Healthy Weight	25.8% ●	31.6%
Receiving Medication/Treatment for Poor Mental Health	33.3% ●	43.4%
Receiving Medication/Treatment for Anxiety	52.2% ●	50.8%
Receiving Medication/Treatment for Depression	55.6% ●	61.1%
Trying to lose weight/maintain weight (overweight)	34.4% ●	74.8%
Trying to lose weight/maintain weight (obese)	61.9% ●	86.6%
Have high blood pressure/hypertension	15.7% ●	26.4% (2014)
Have high blood cholesterol	23.5% ●	26.8% (2014)

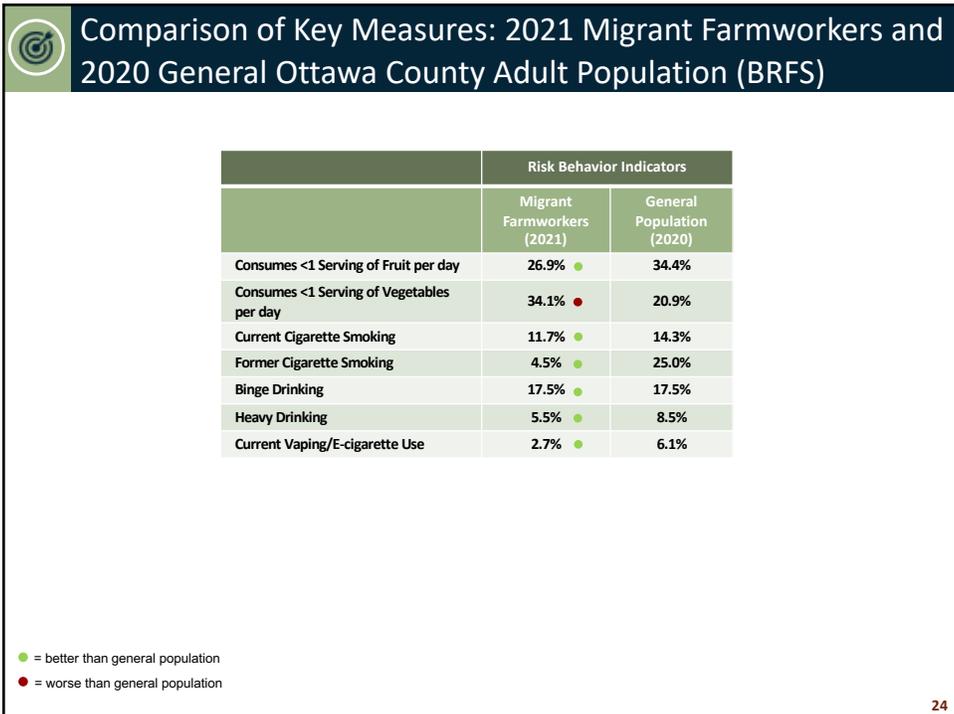
● = better than general population
 ● = worse than general population

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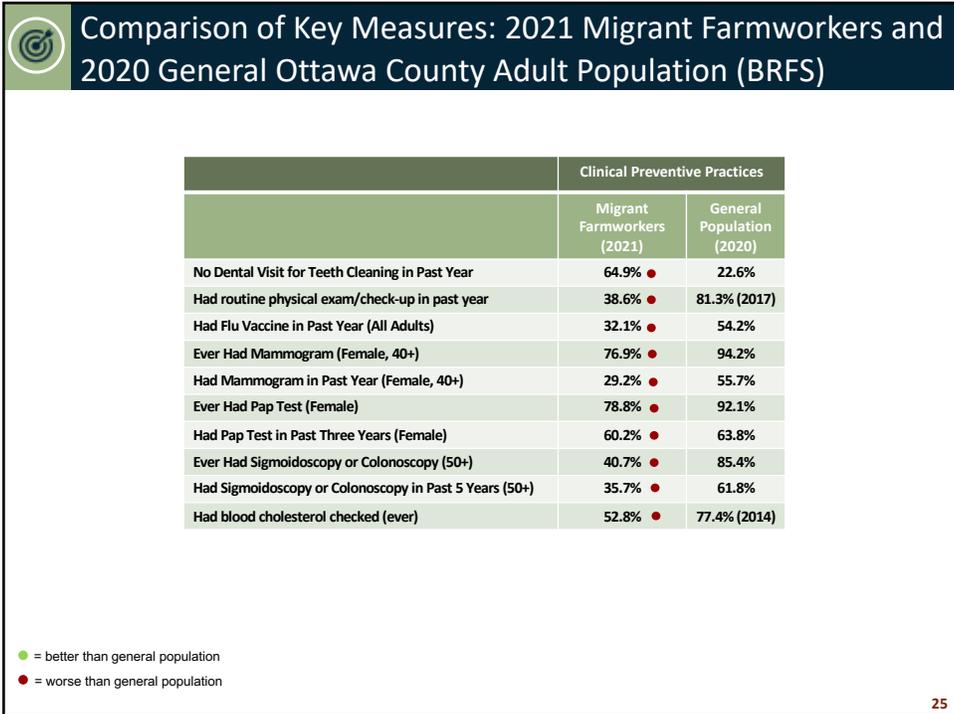
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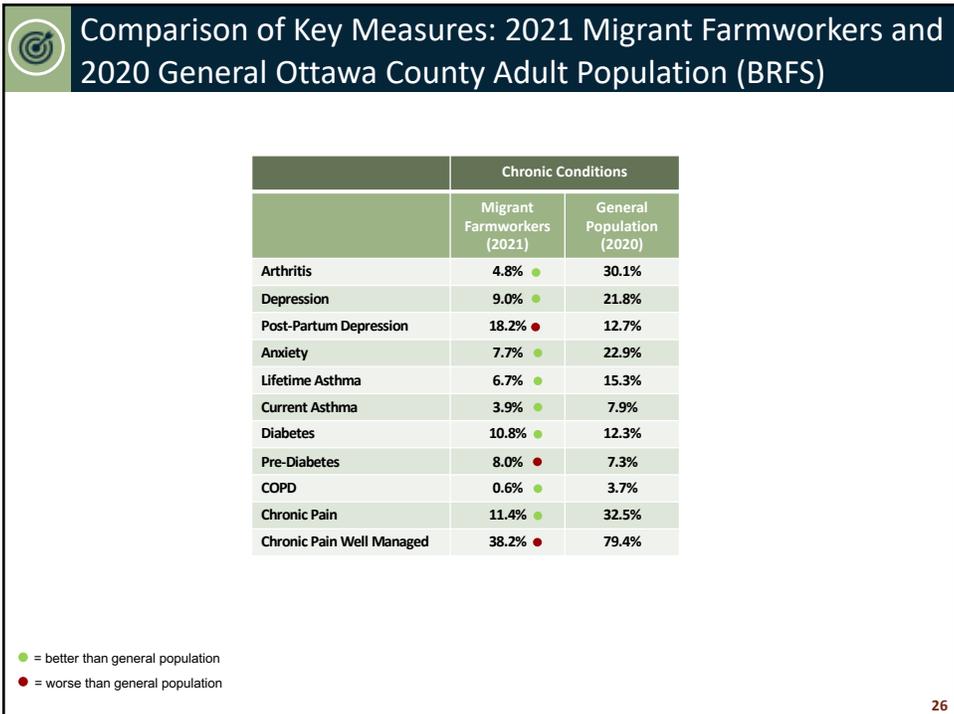
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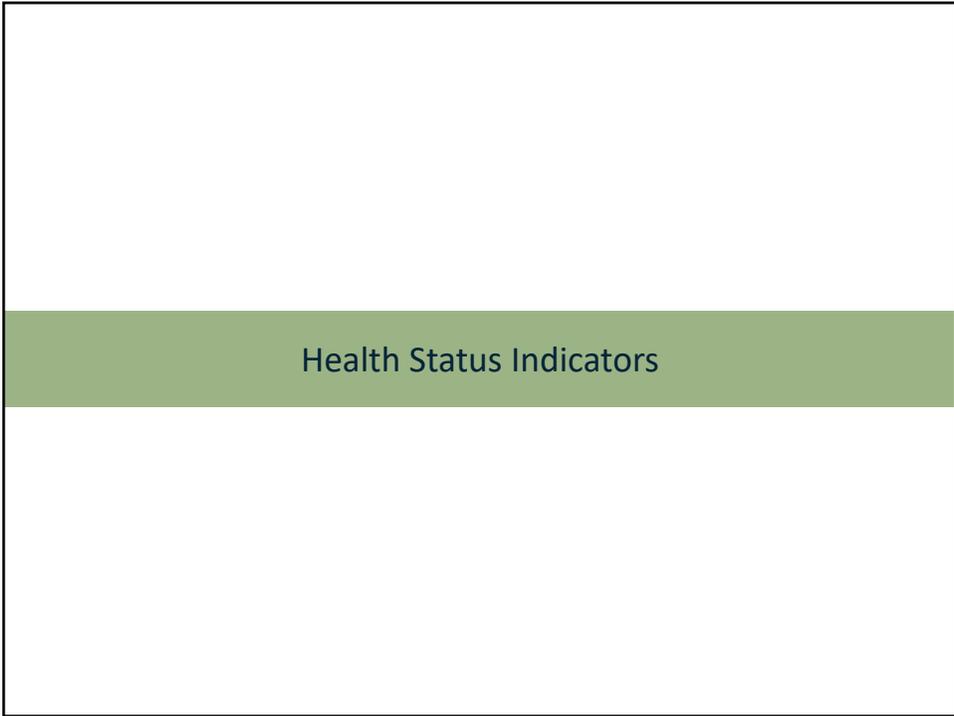
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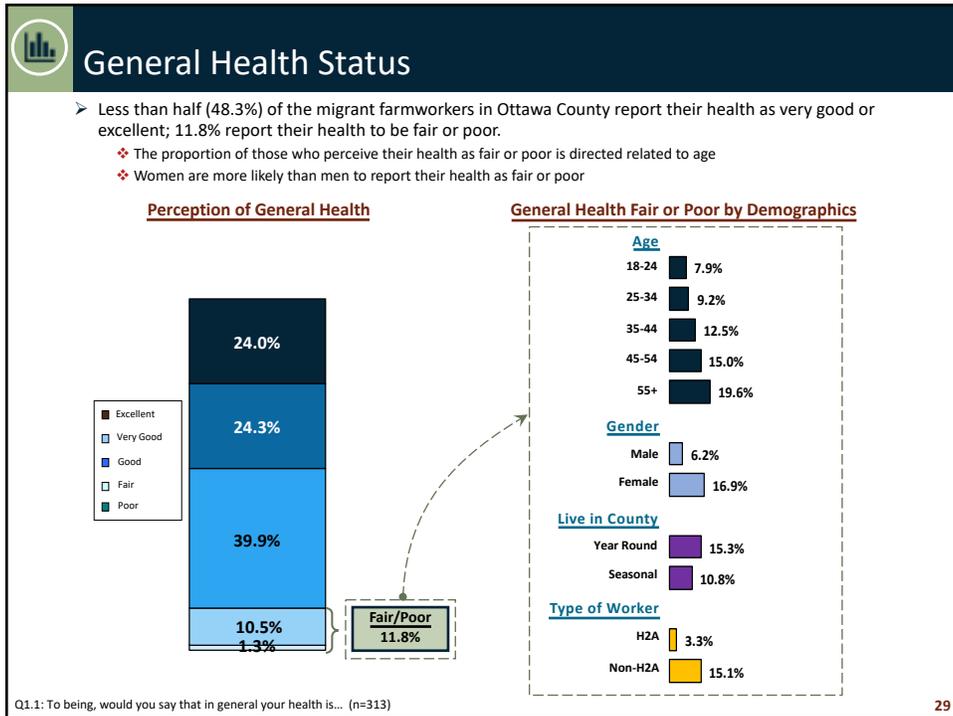
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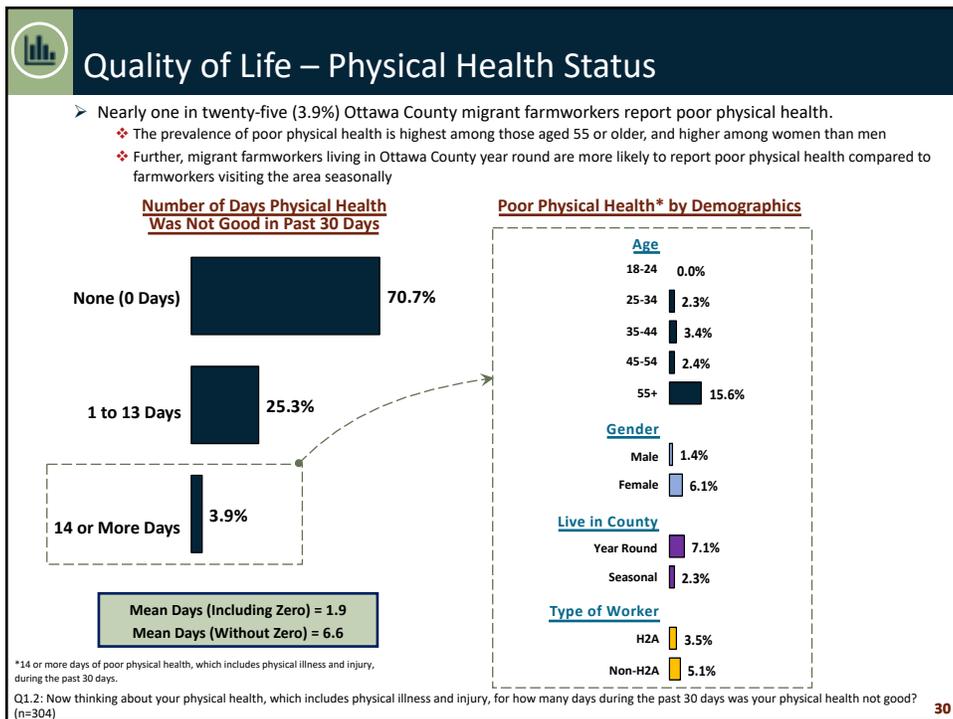
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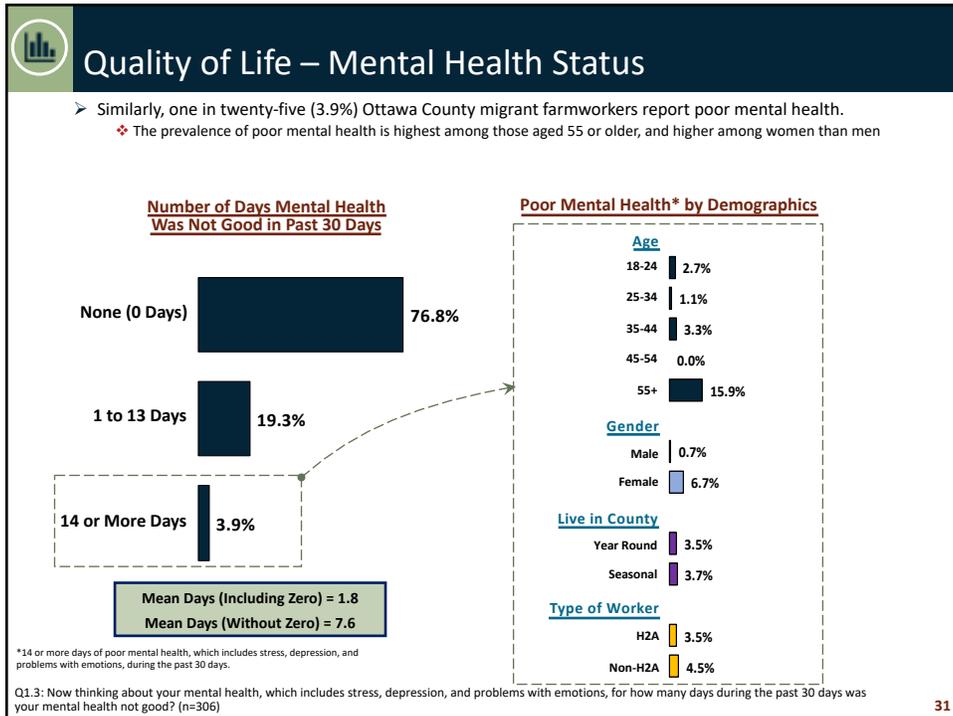
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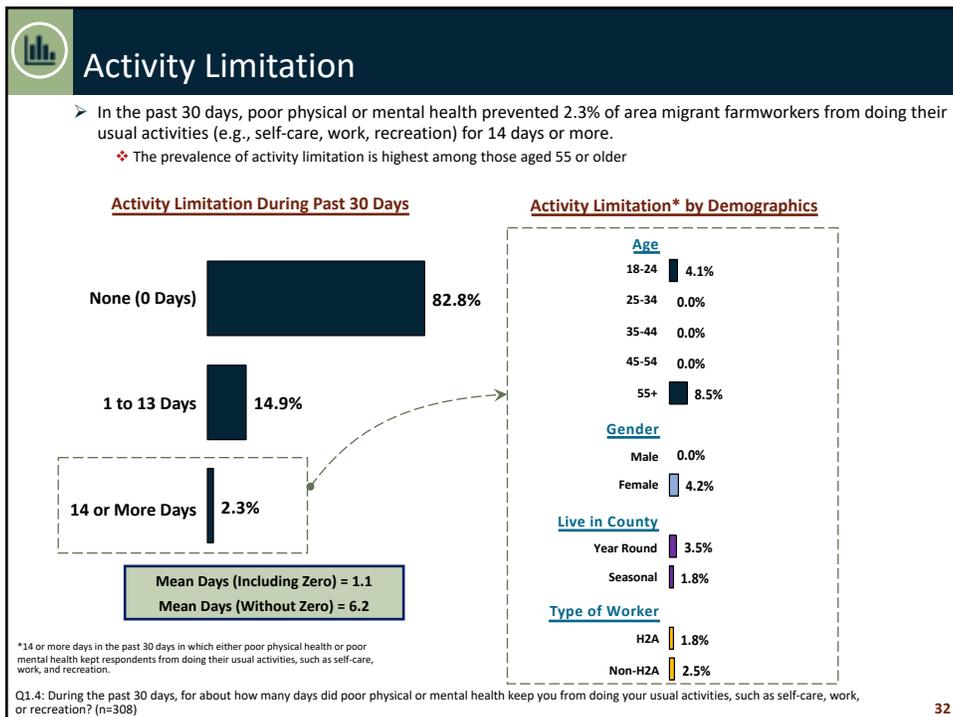
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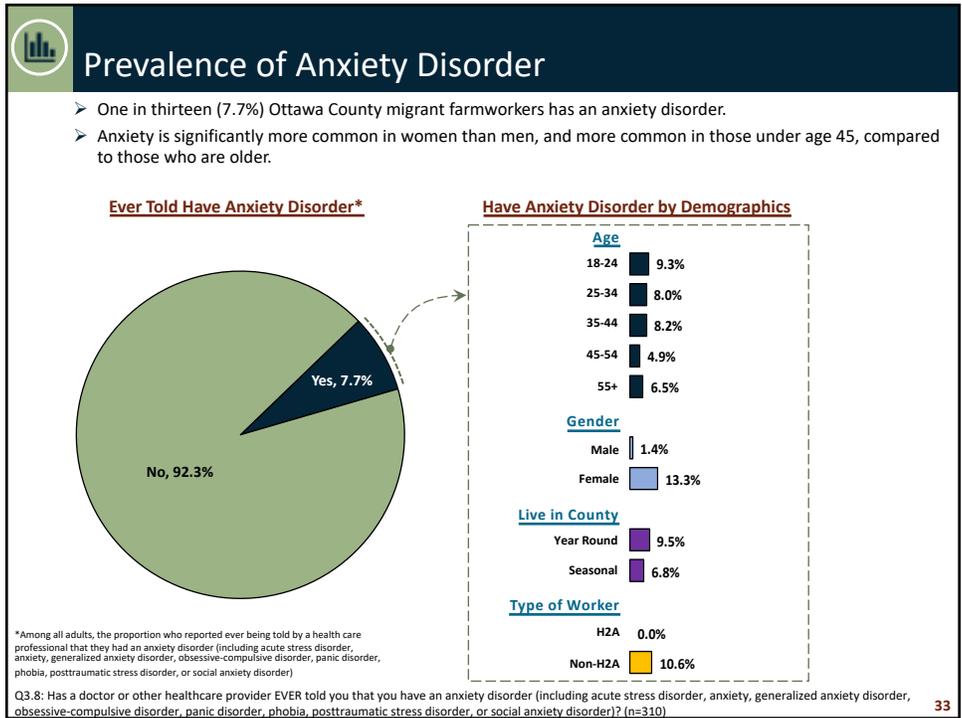
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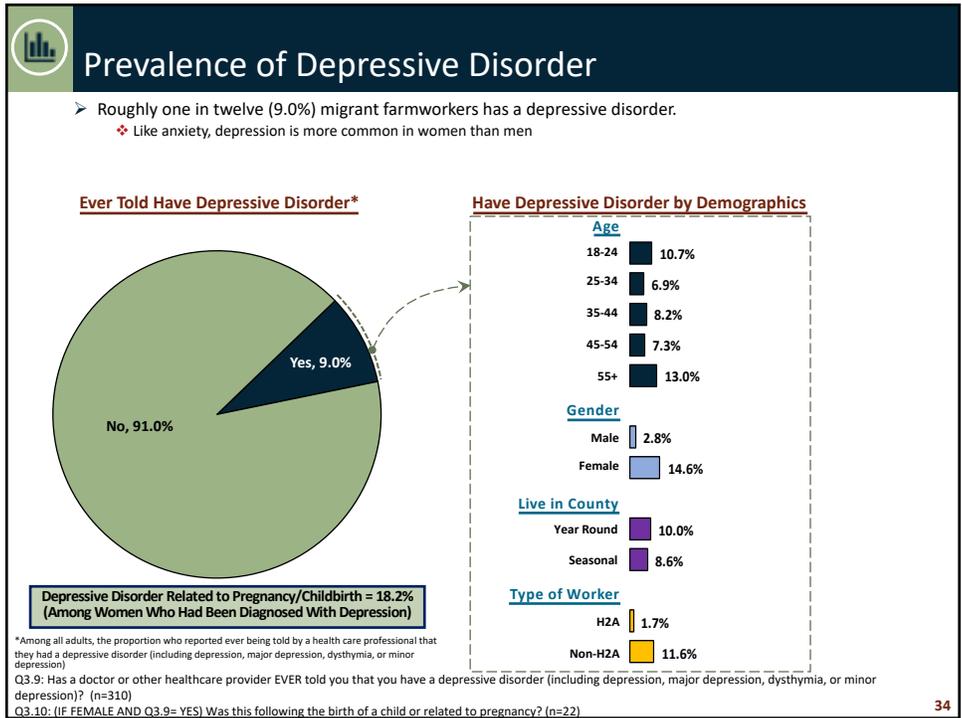
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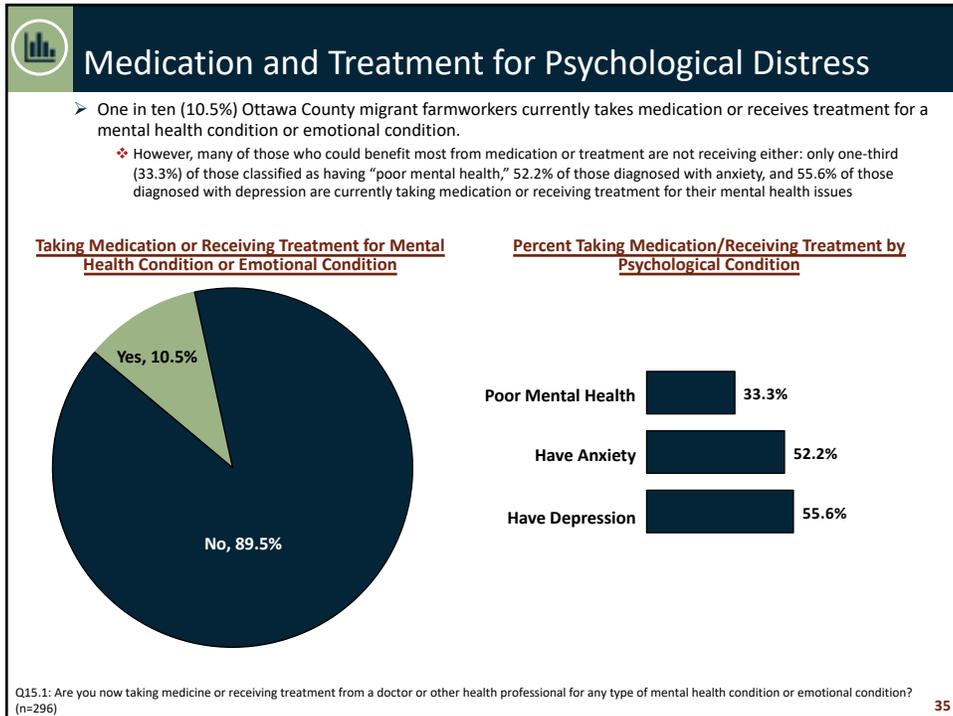
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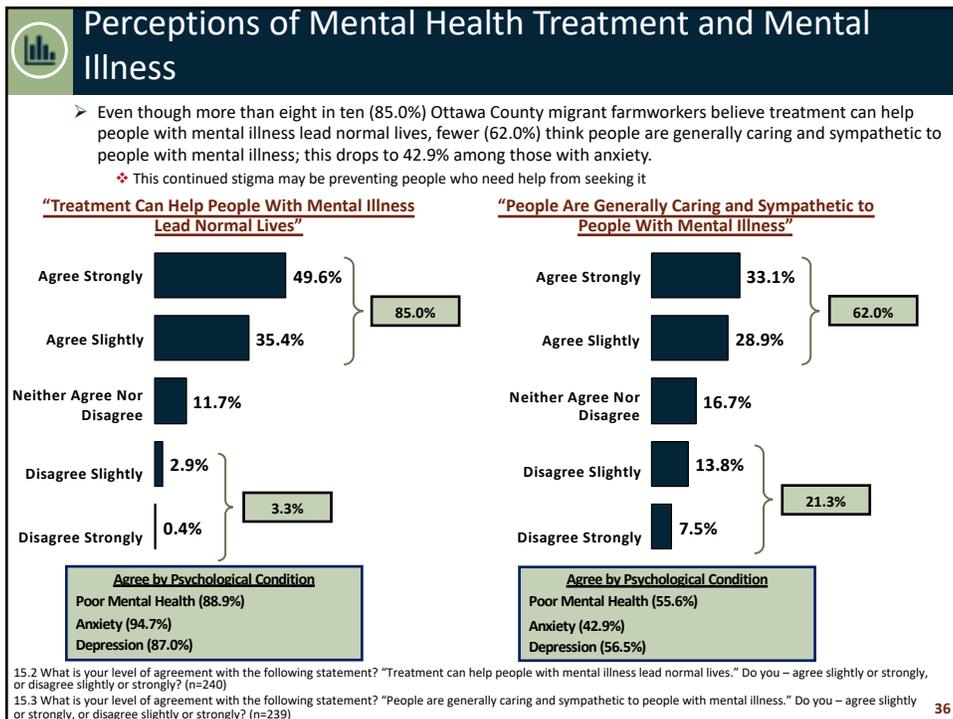
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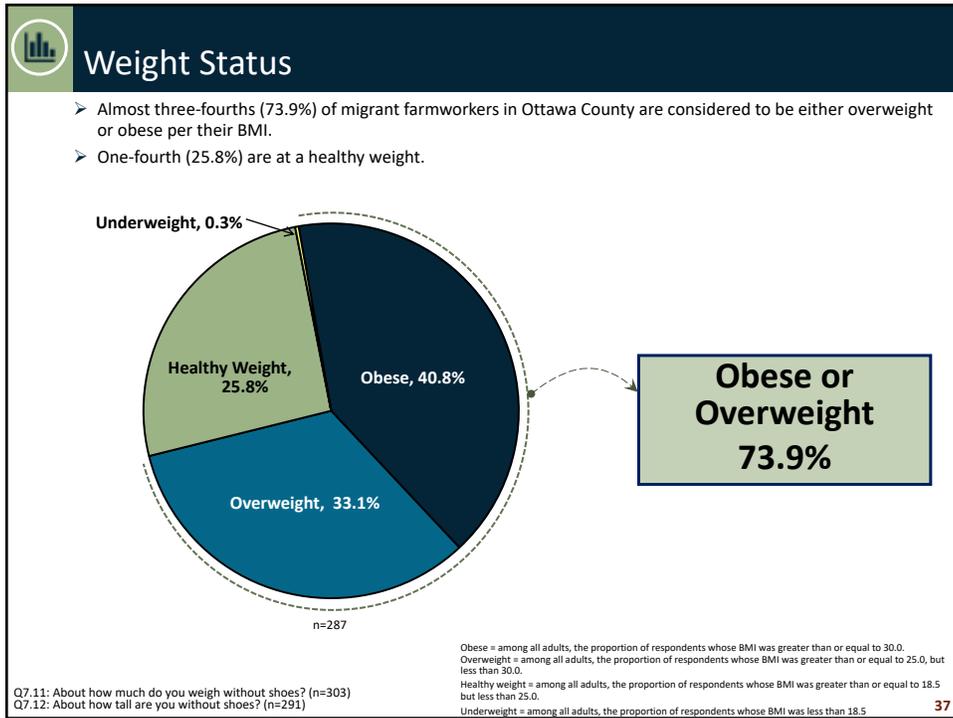
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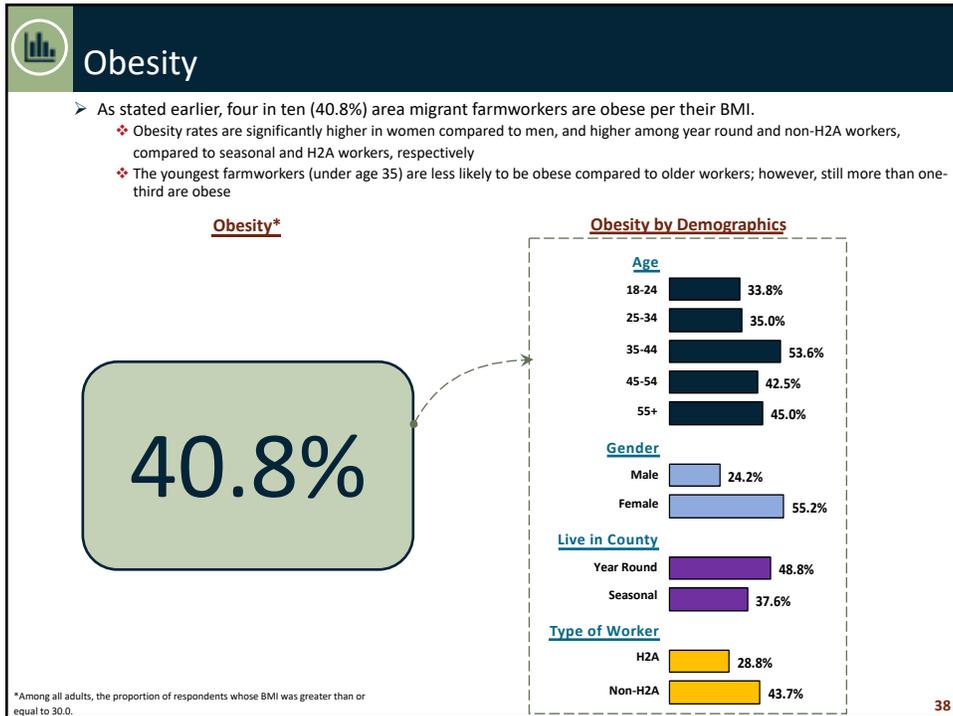
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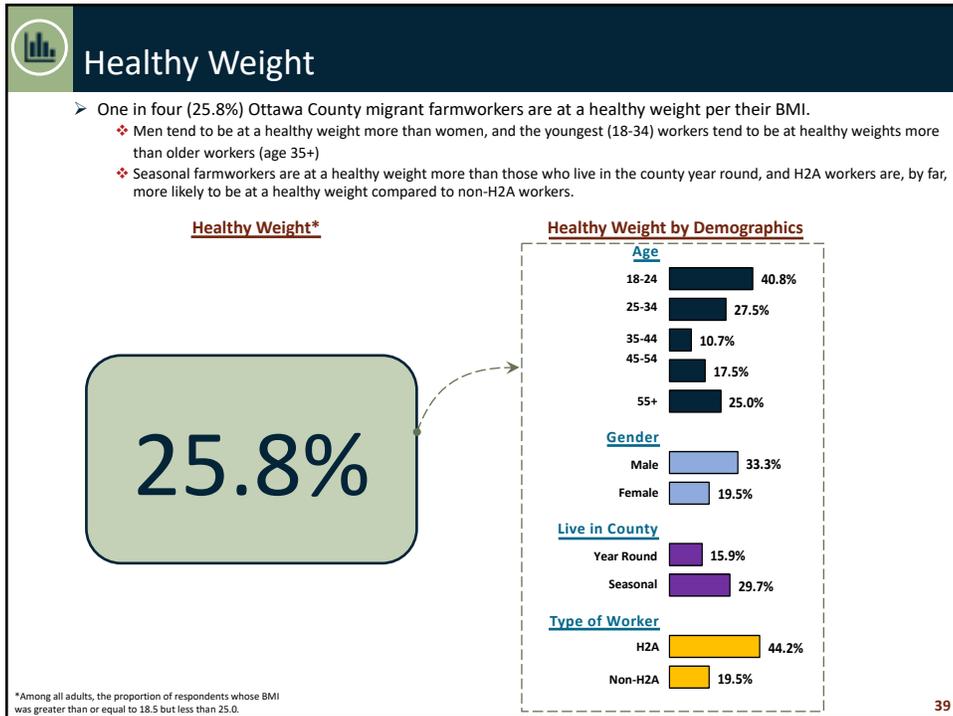
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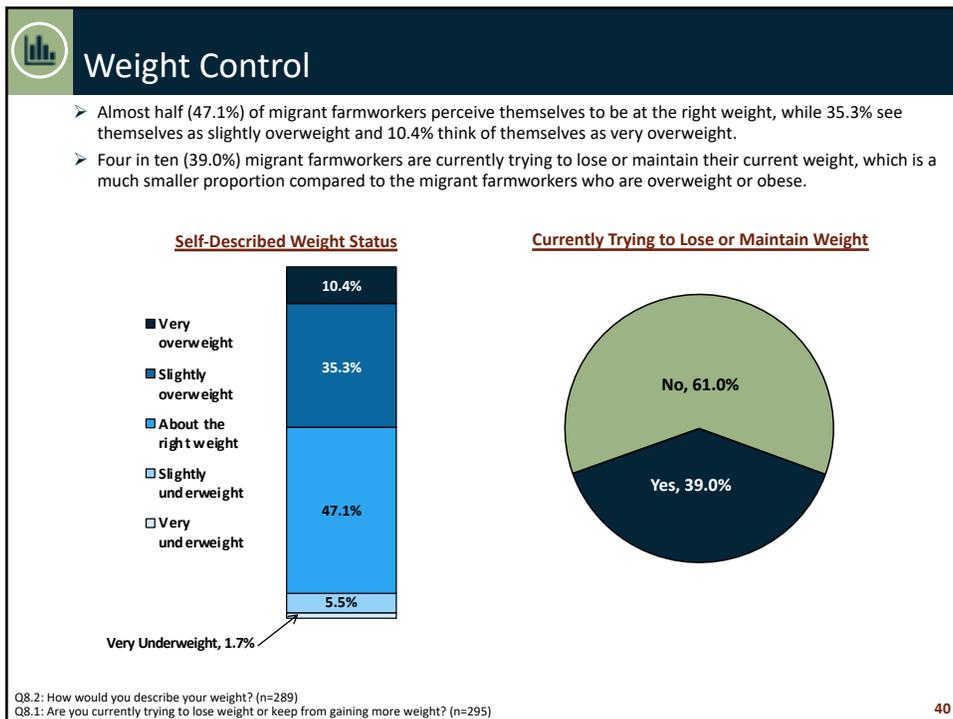
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Weight Control (Continued)

- Since three-fourths of migrant farmworkers in Ottawa County are either overweight or obese, it is discouraging to see that the only 34.4% of overweight, and 61.9% of obese, farmworkers report trying to lose weight.
- It's possible that weight is perceived differently by this subpopulation since many of these farmworkers deemed overweight or obese perceive themselves in a more favorable light; for example, 48.6% who are considered obese per their BMI see themselves as slightly overweight, and 53.9% who are overweight view themselves to be at the right weight.

Trying to Lose/Maintain Weight by BMI Category "Overweight" or "Obese"

Category	Percentage
Overweight	34.4%
Obese	61.9%

Self-Described Weight Status by BMI Category "Overweight" or "Obese"

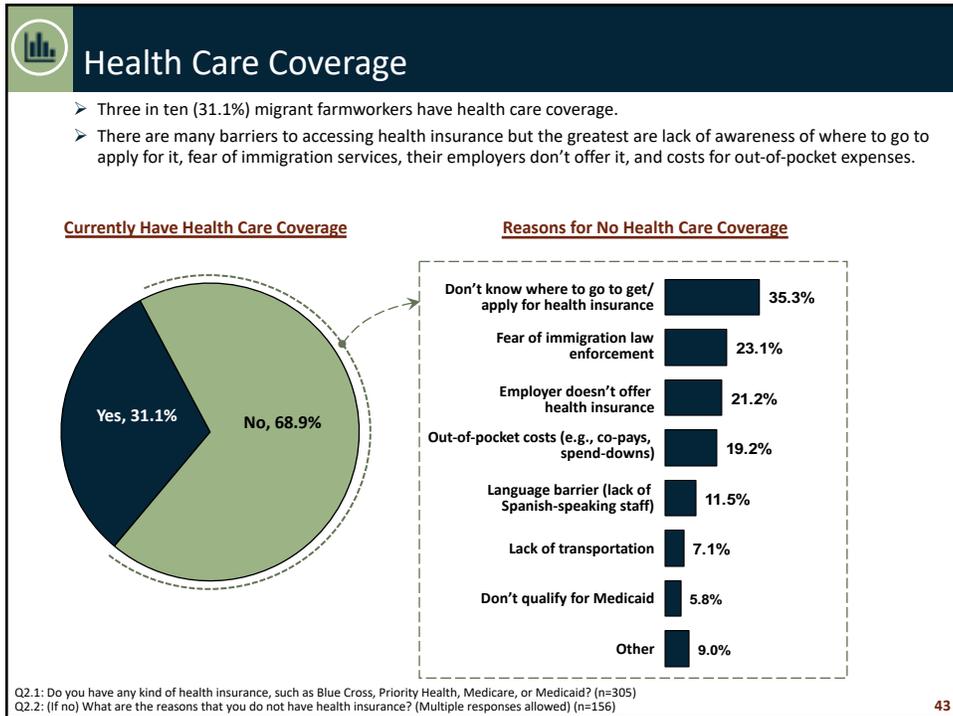
Self-Described Weight	BMI Category	
	Overweight (n=89)	Obese (n=109)
Underweight	0.0%	5.5%
About the right weight	53.9%	21.1%
Slightly Overweight	42.7%	48.6%
Very Overweight	3.4%	24.8%

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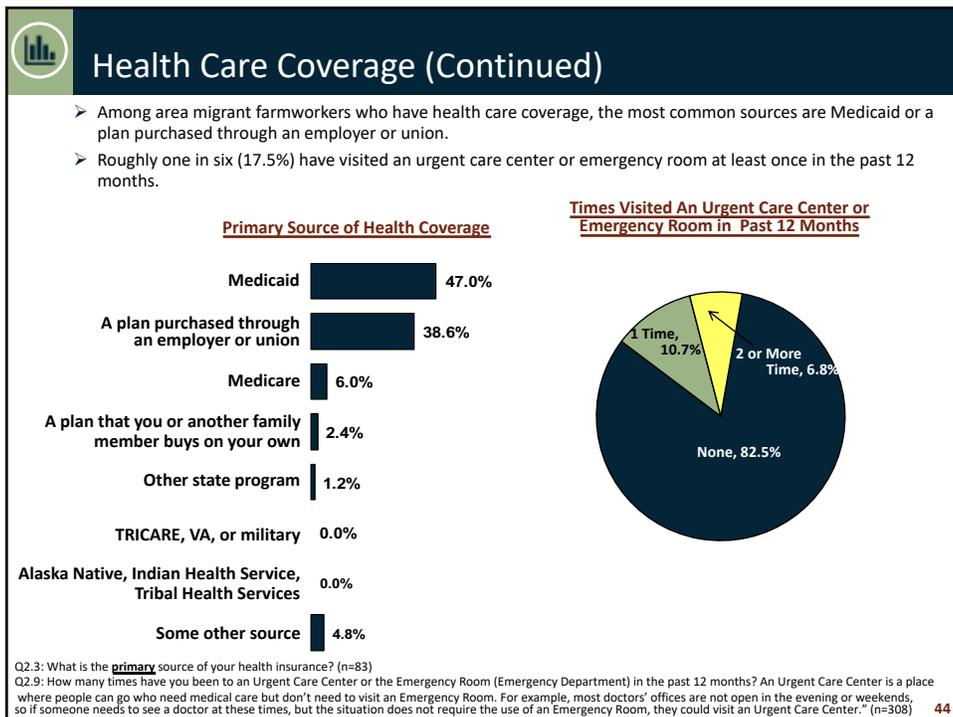
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Health Care Access

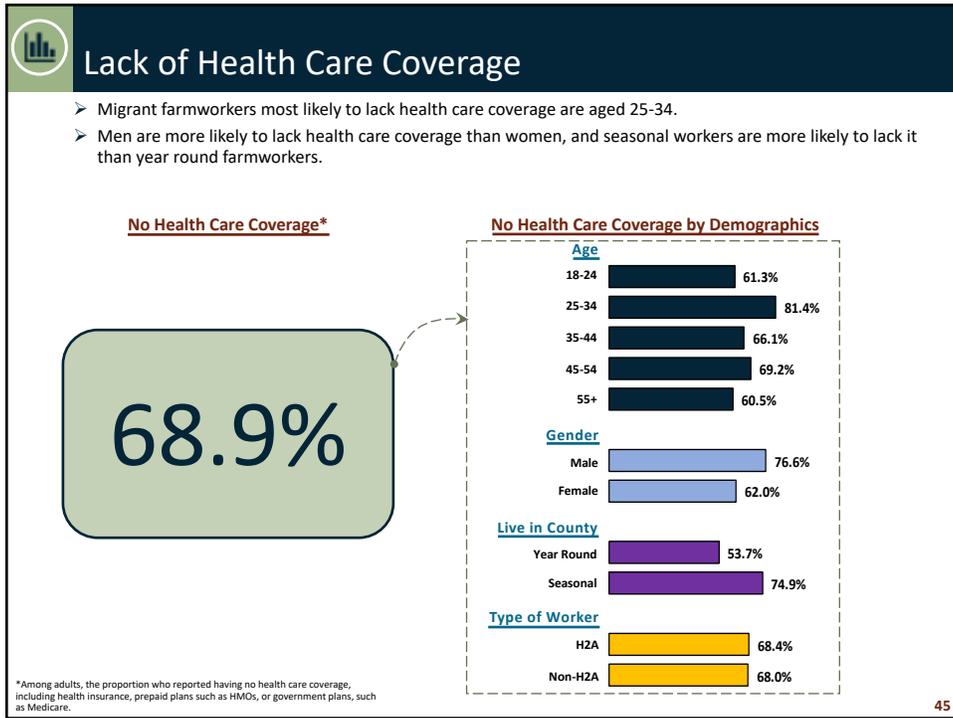
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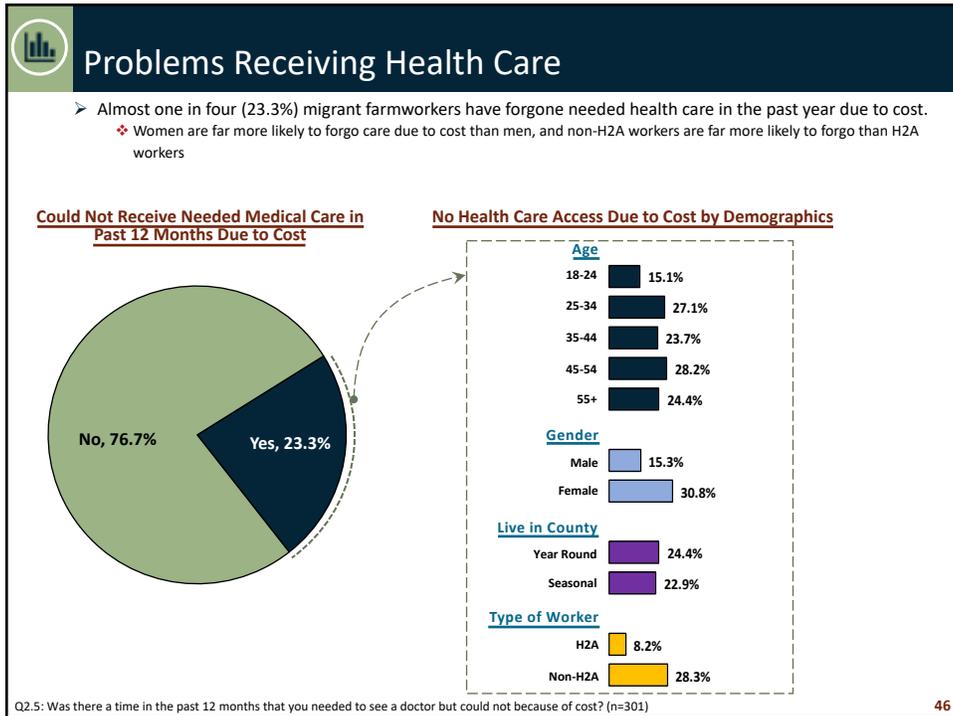
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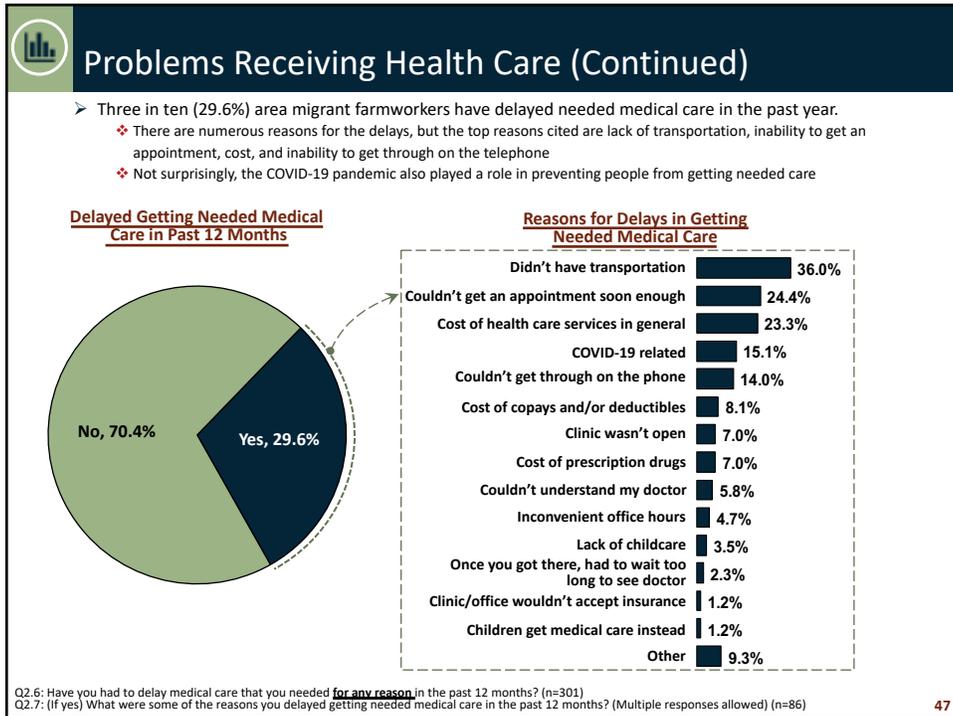
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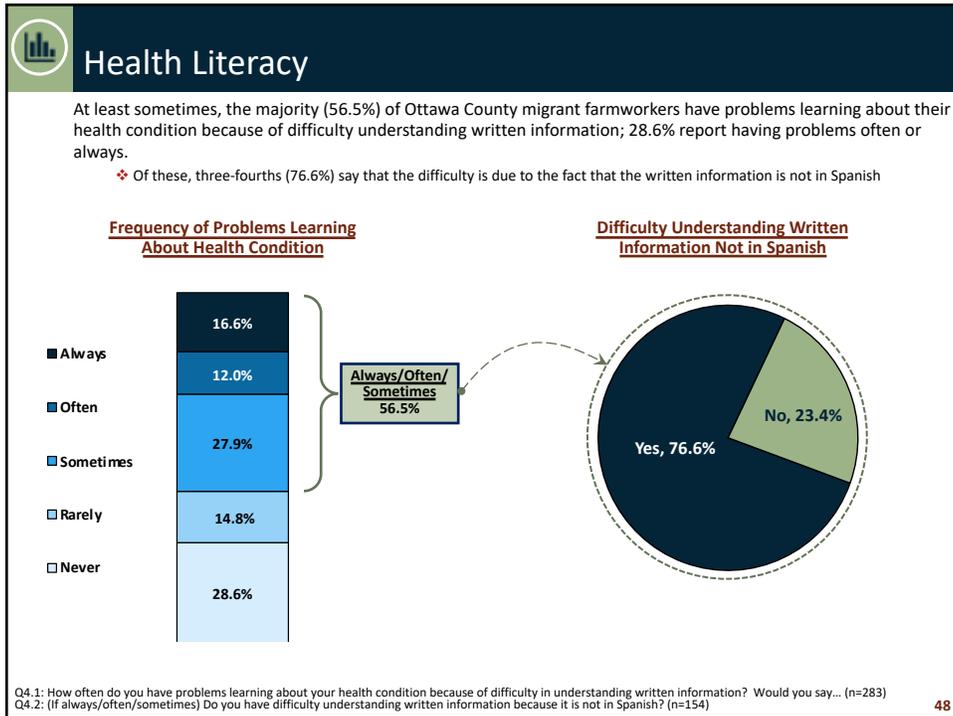
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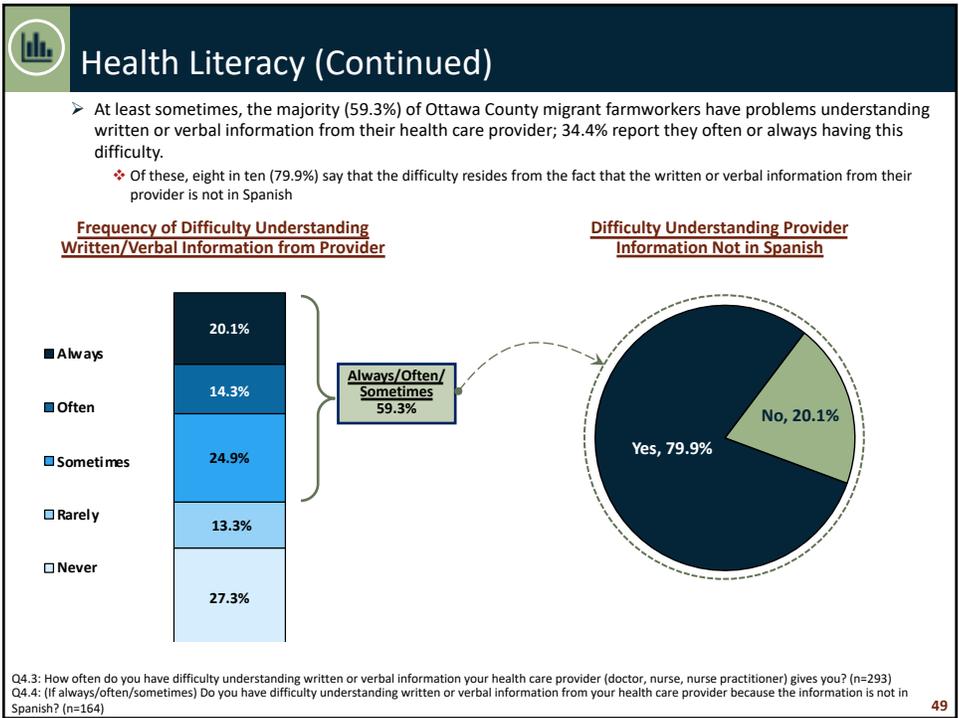
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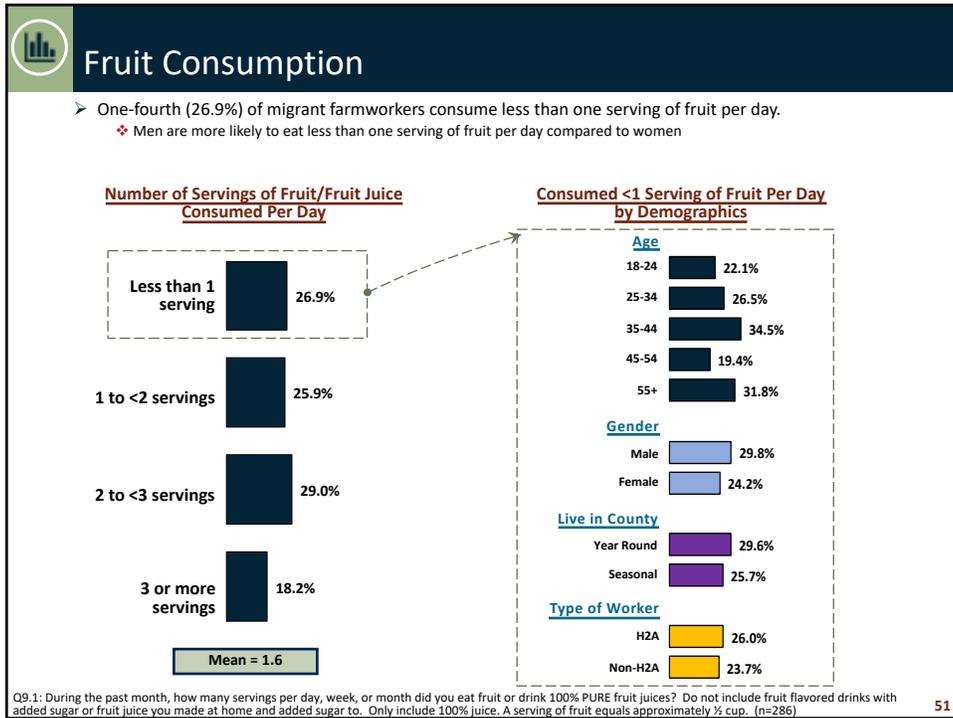


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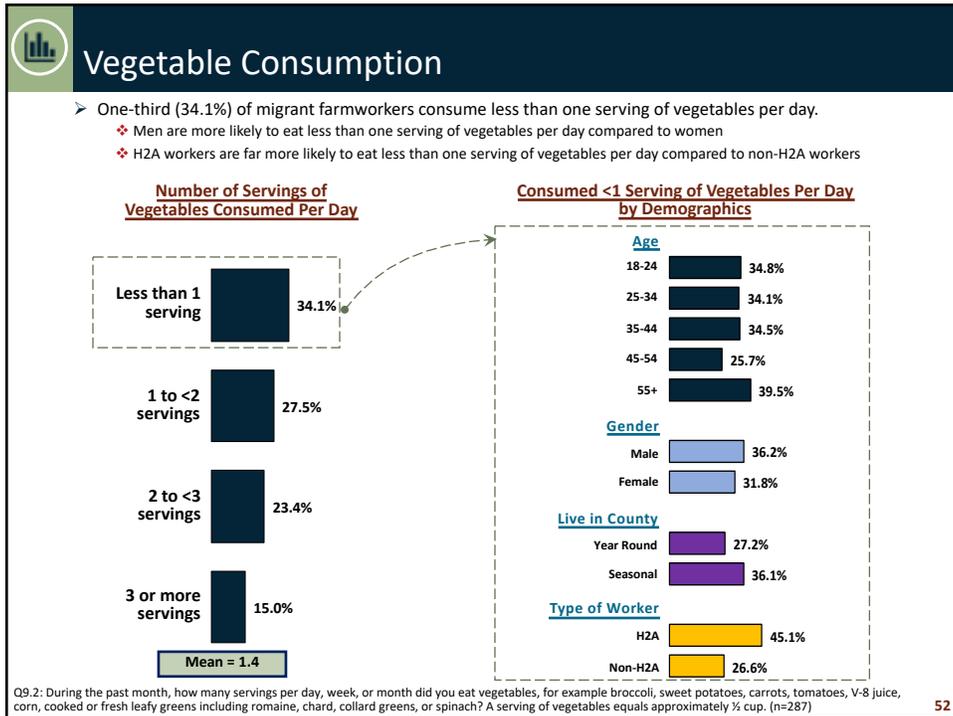


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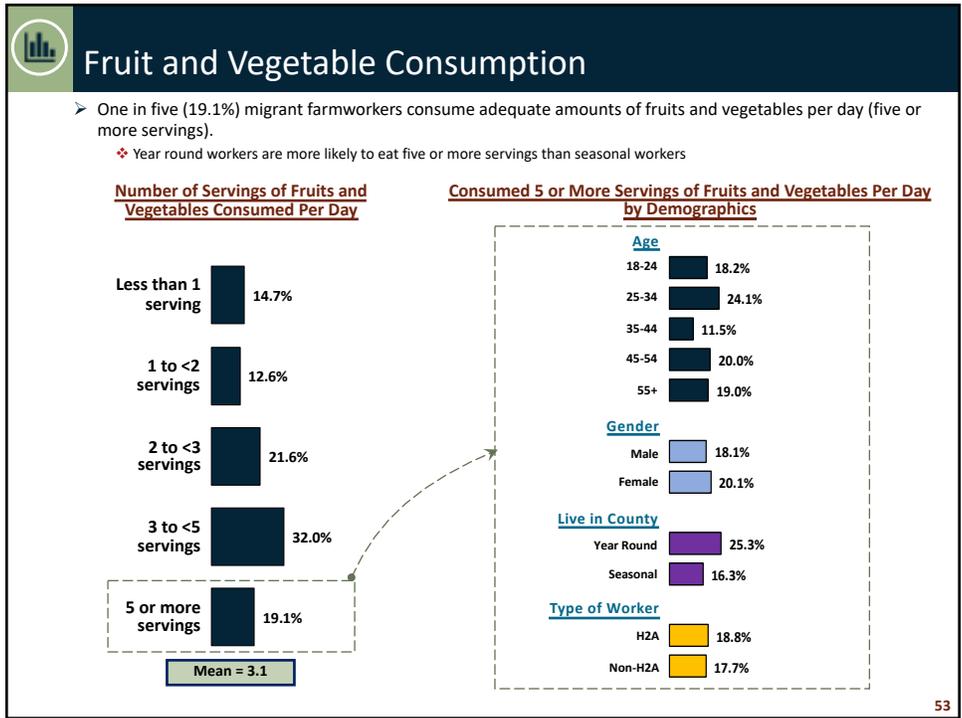




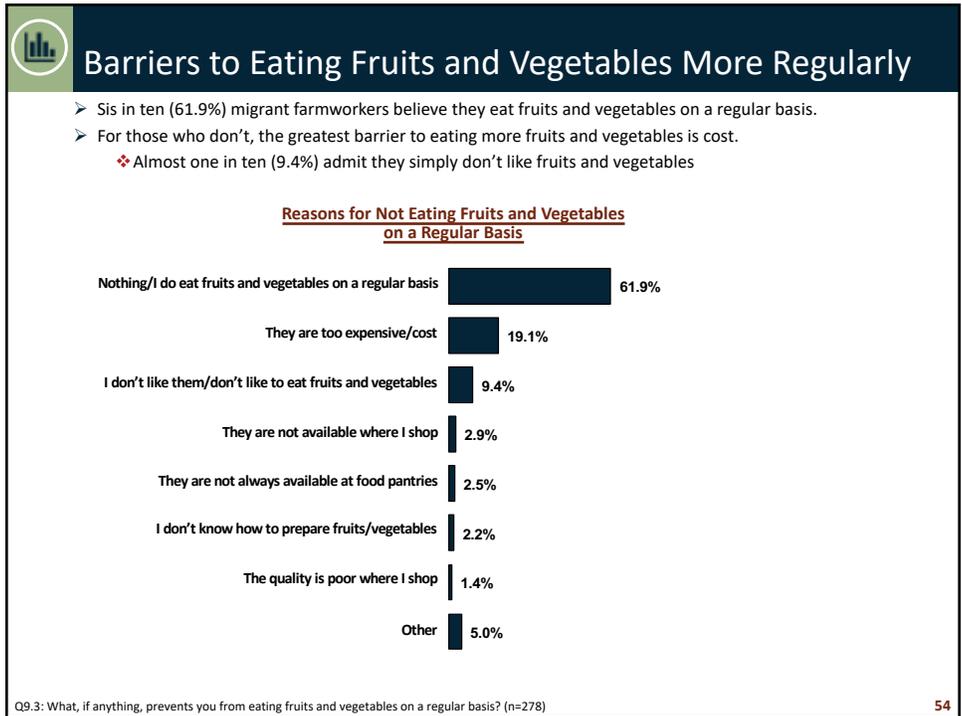
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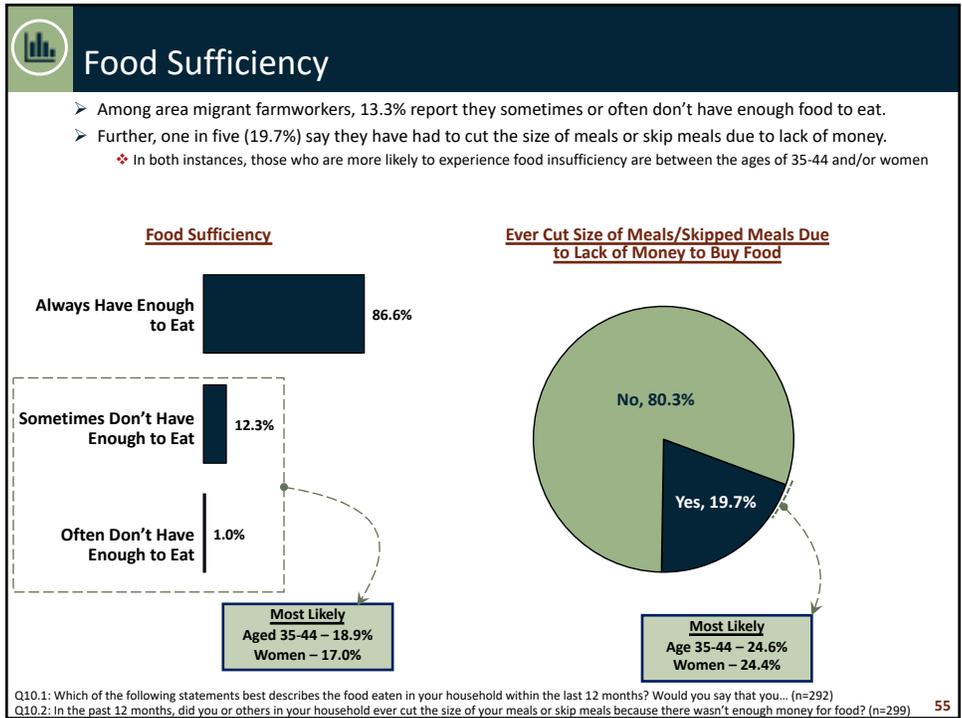
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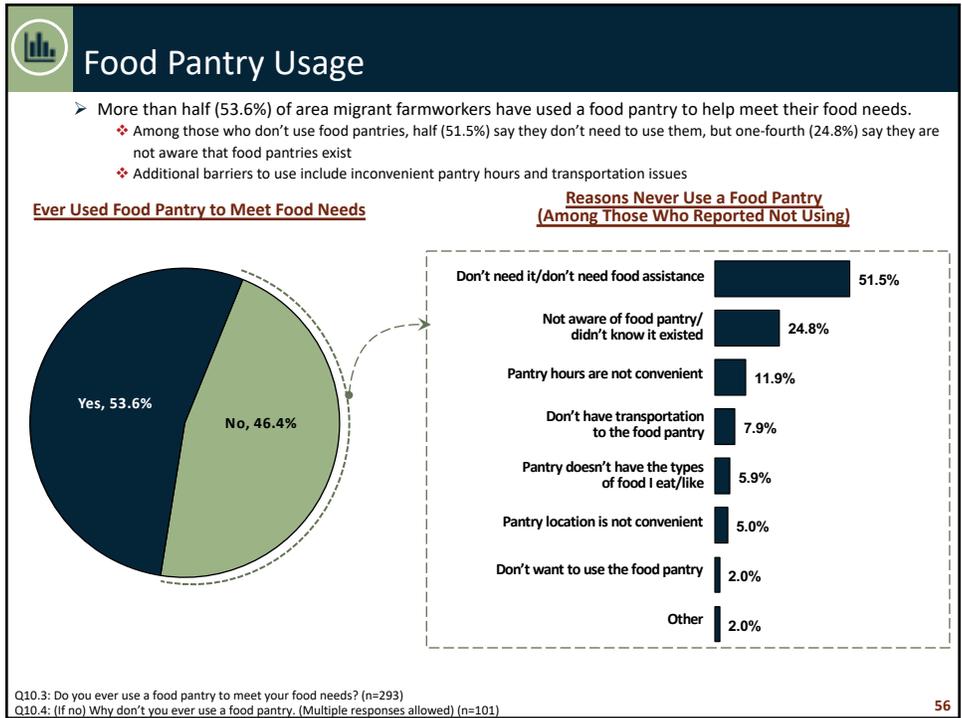
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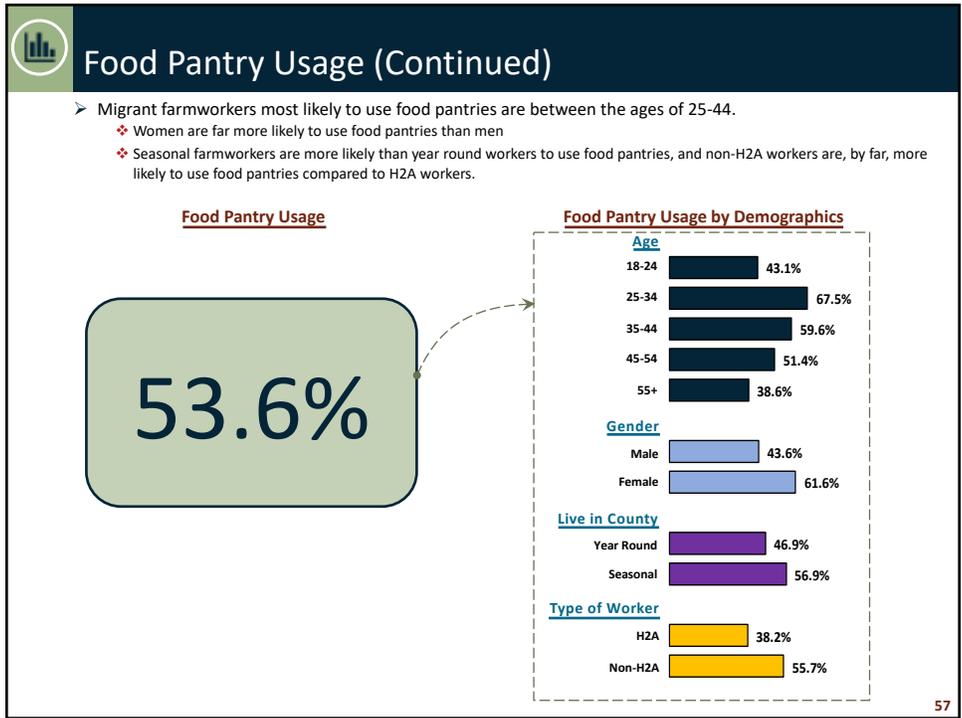
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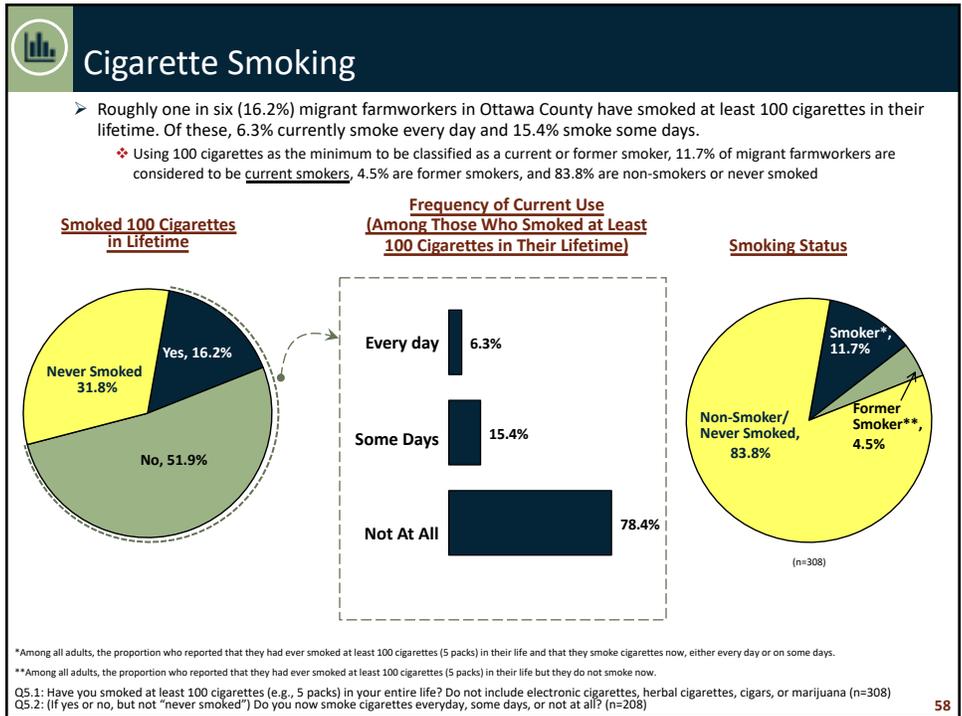
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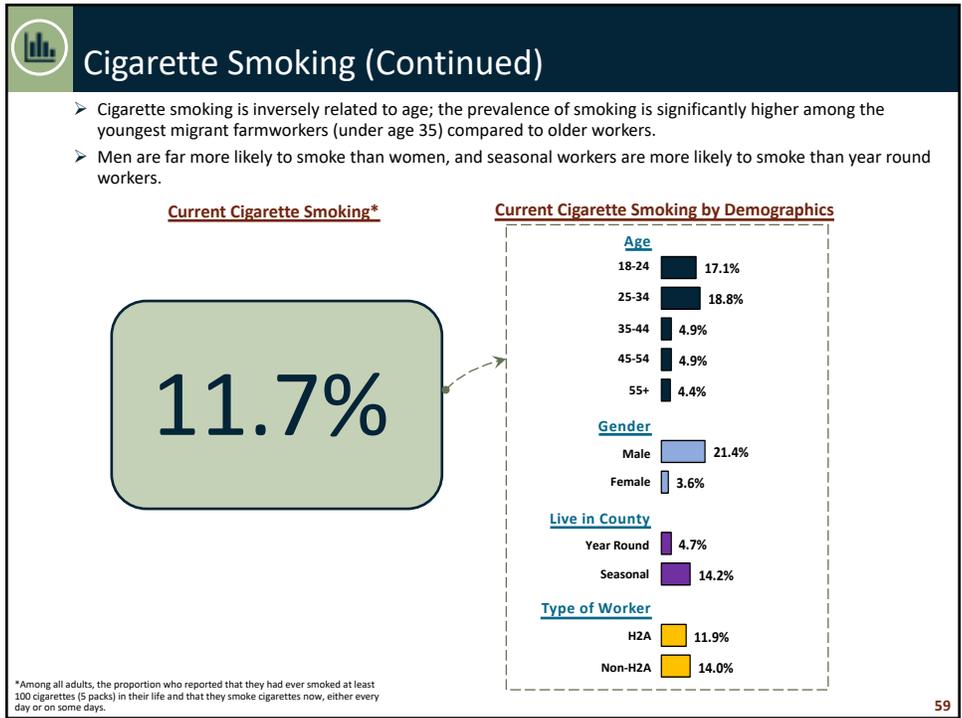
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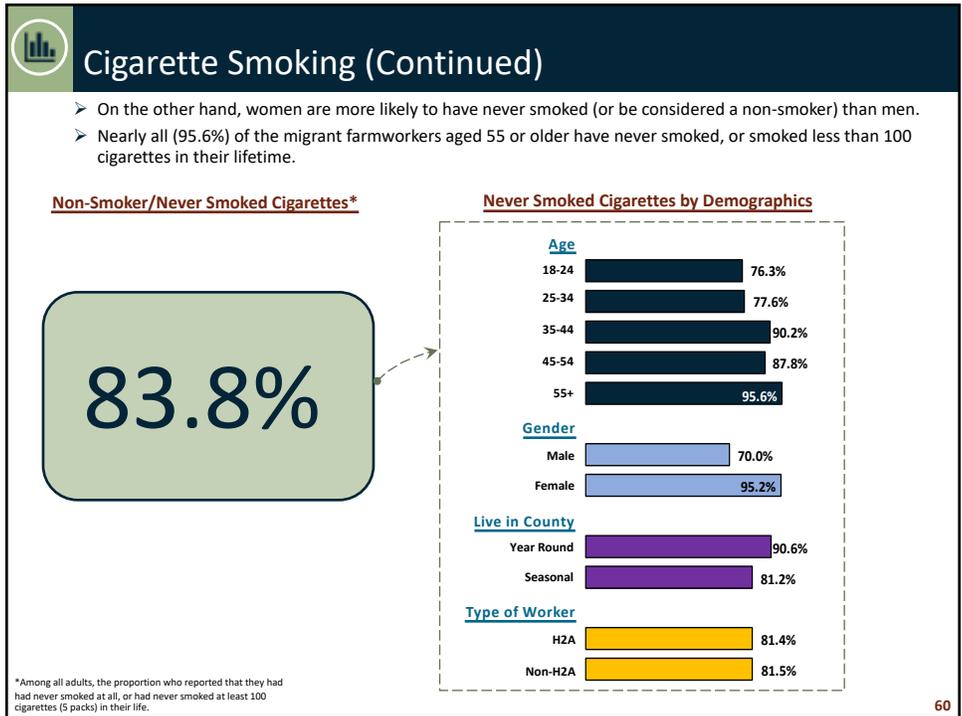
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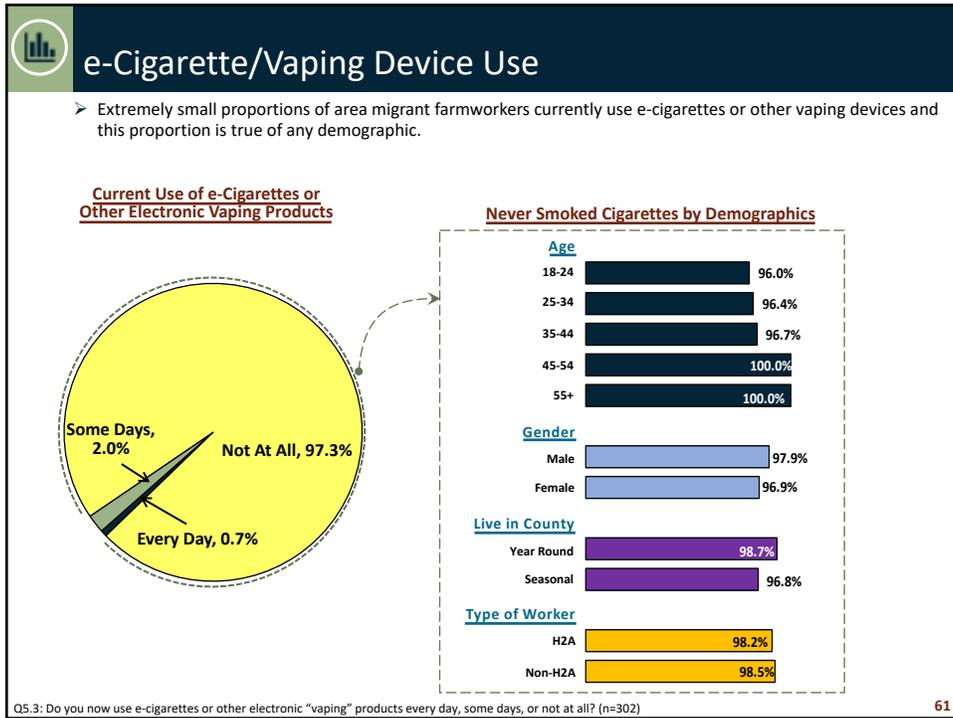
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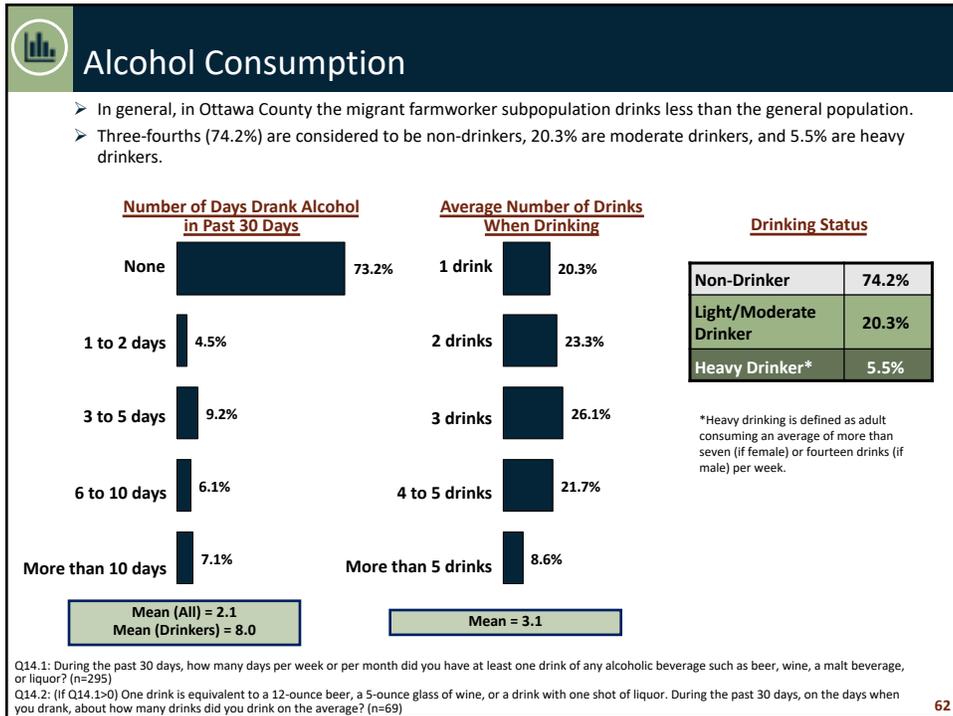
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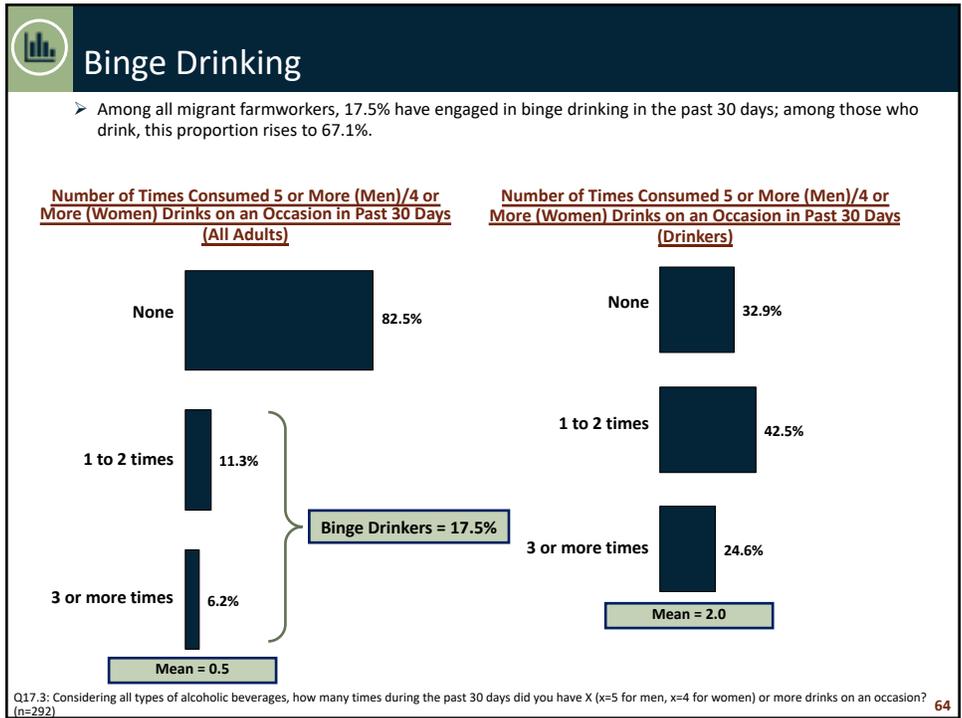
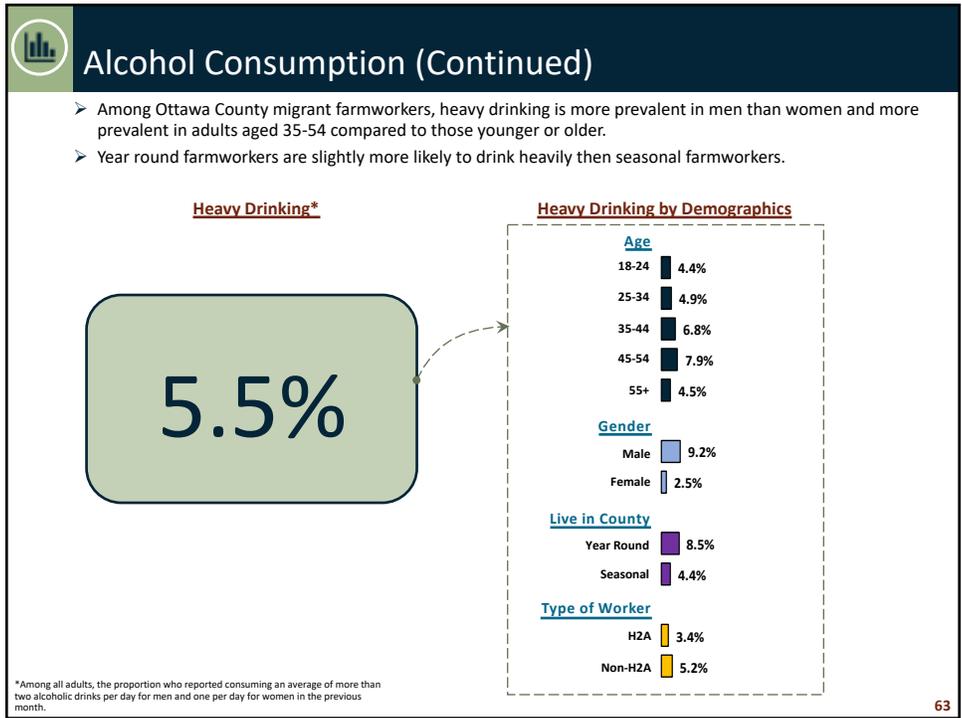
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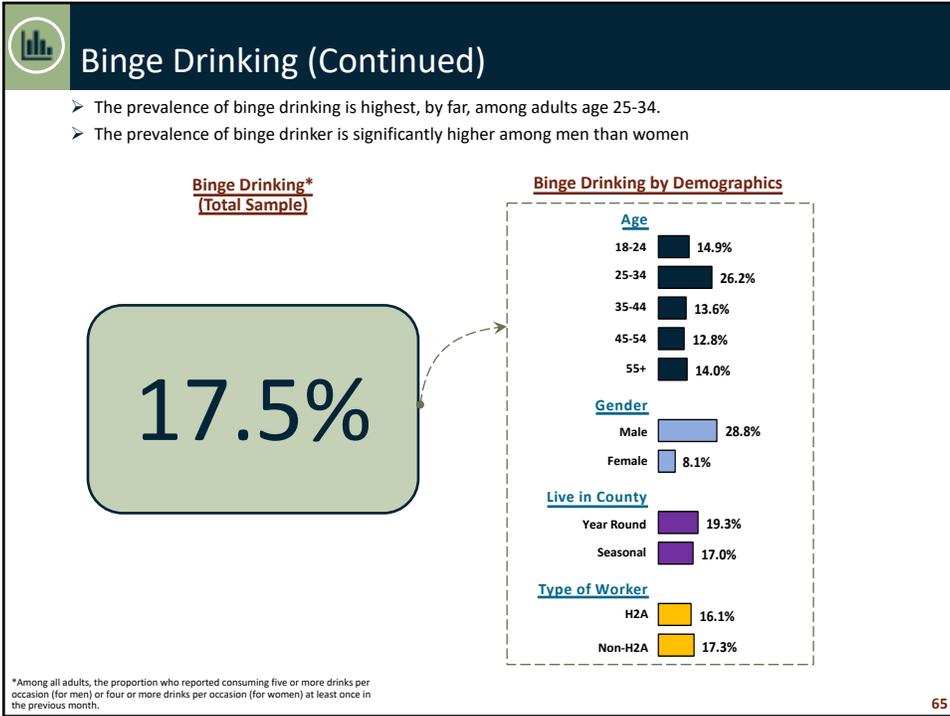


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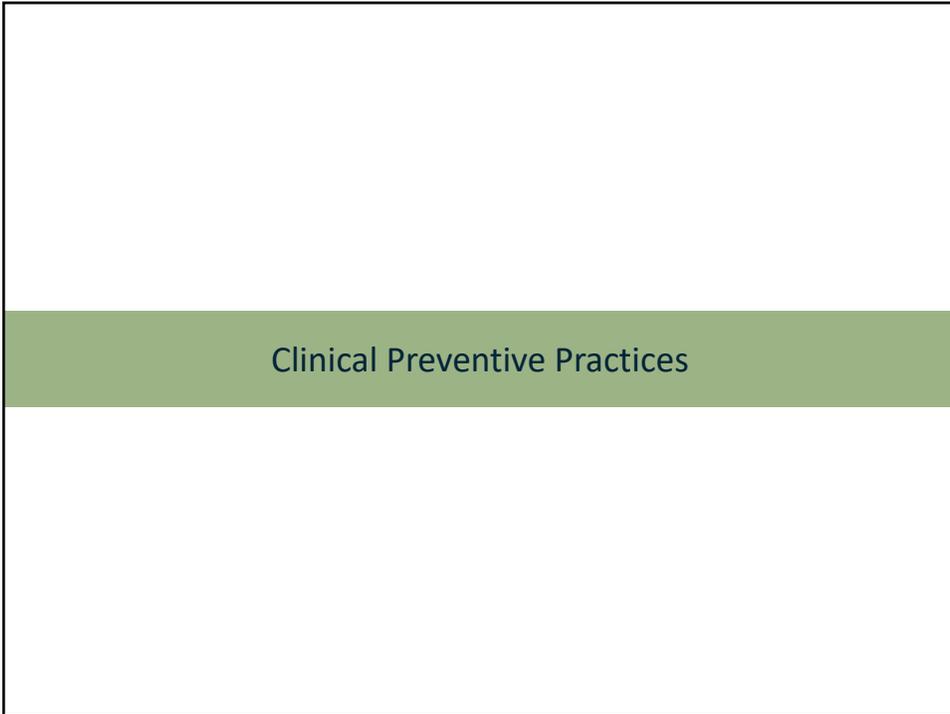


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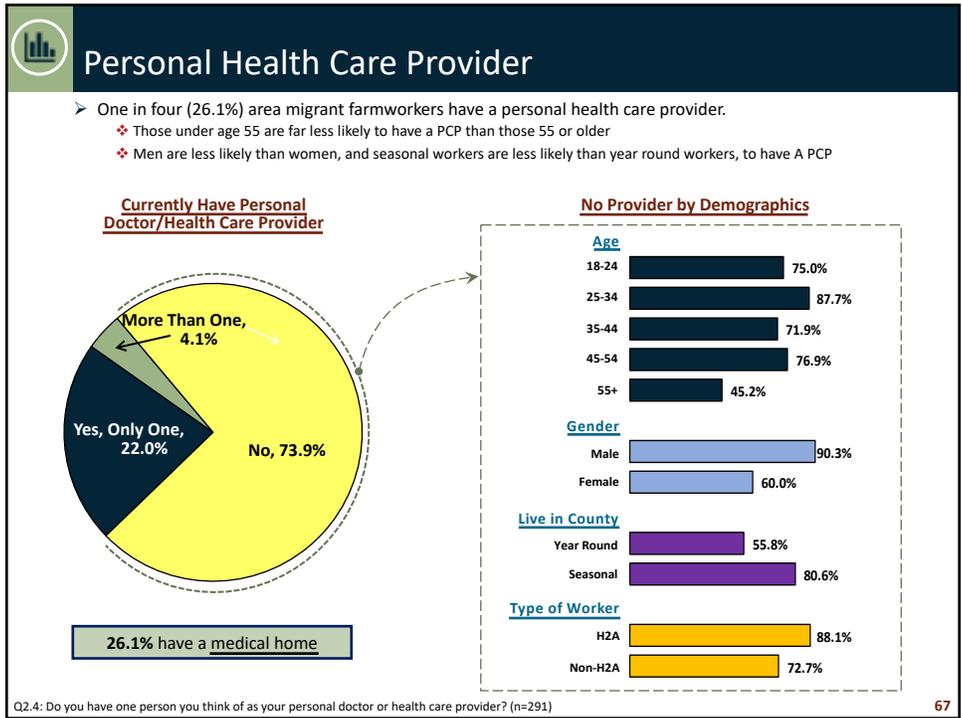




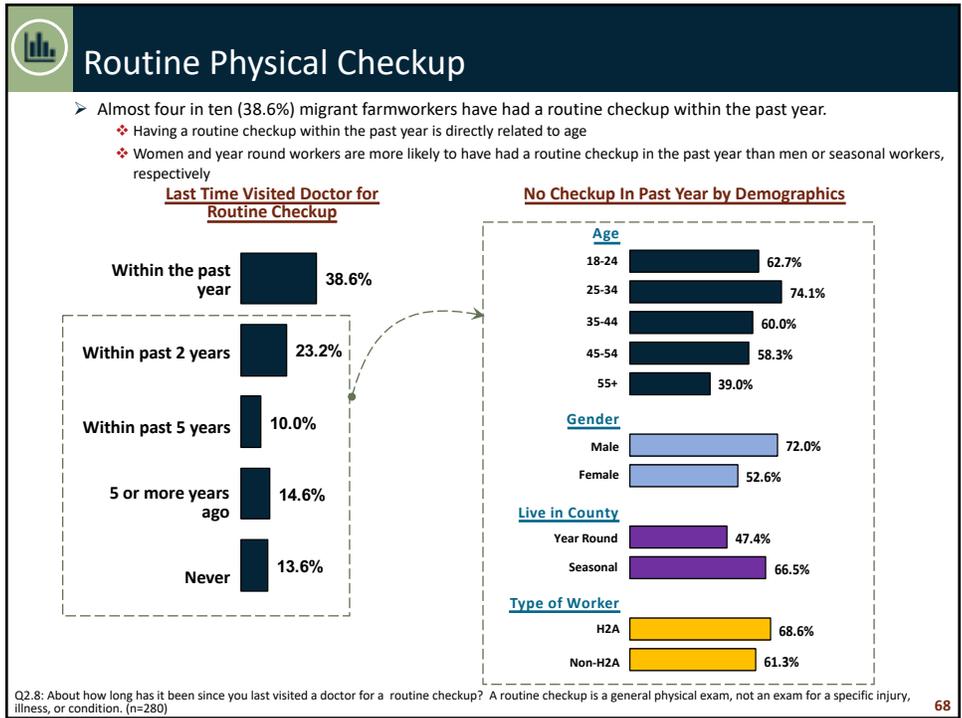
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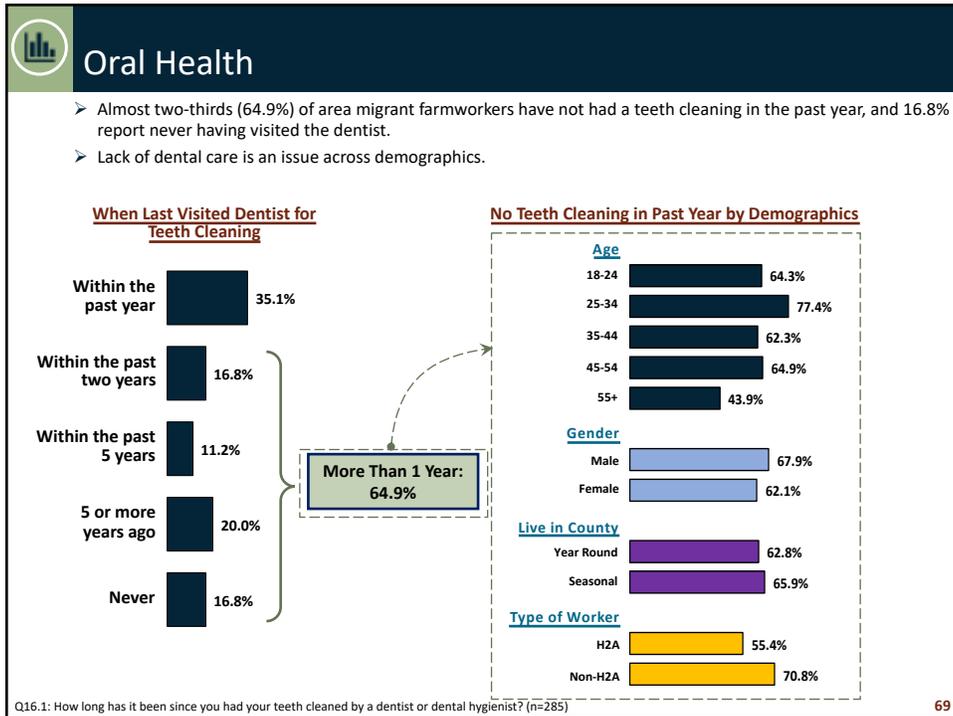
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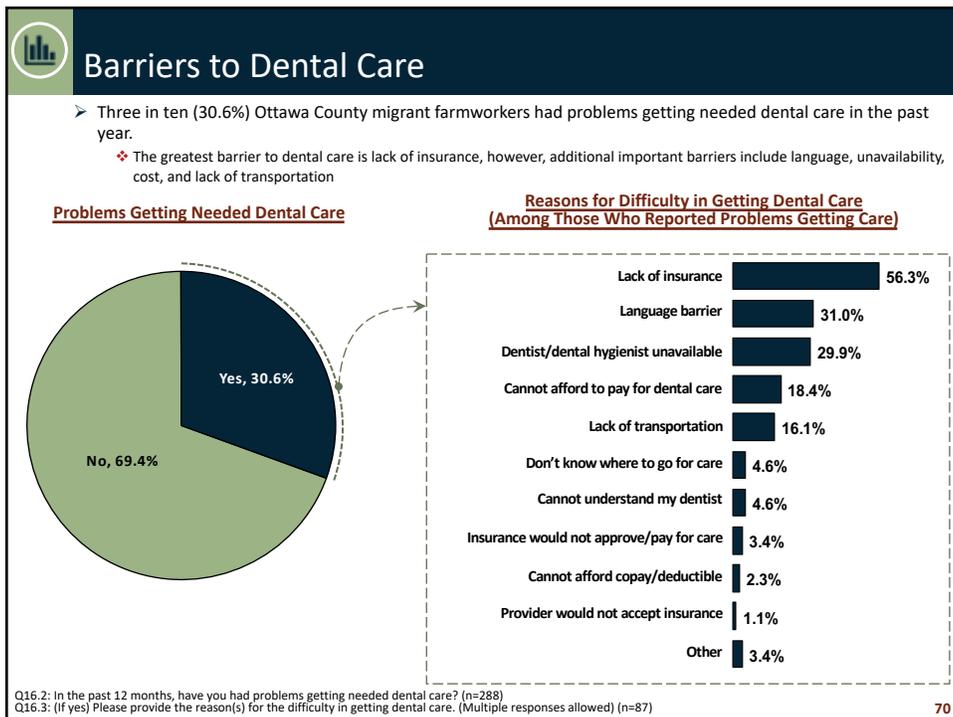
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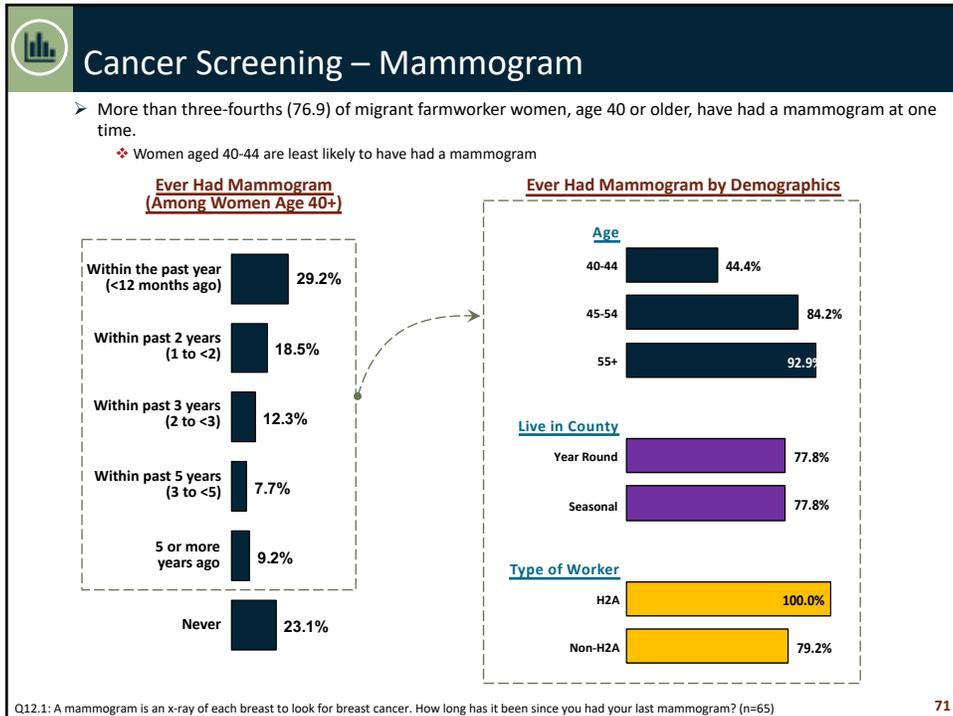
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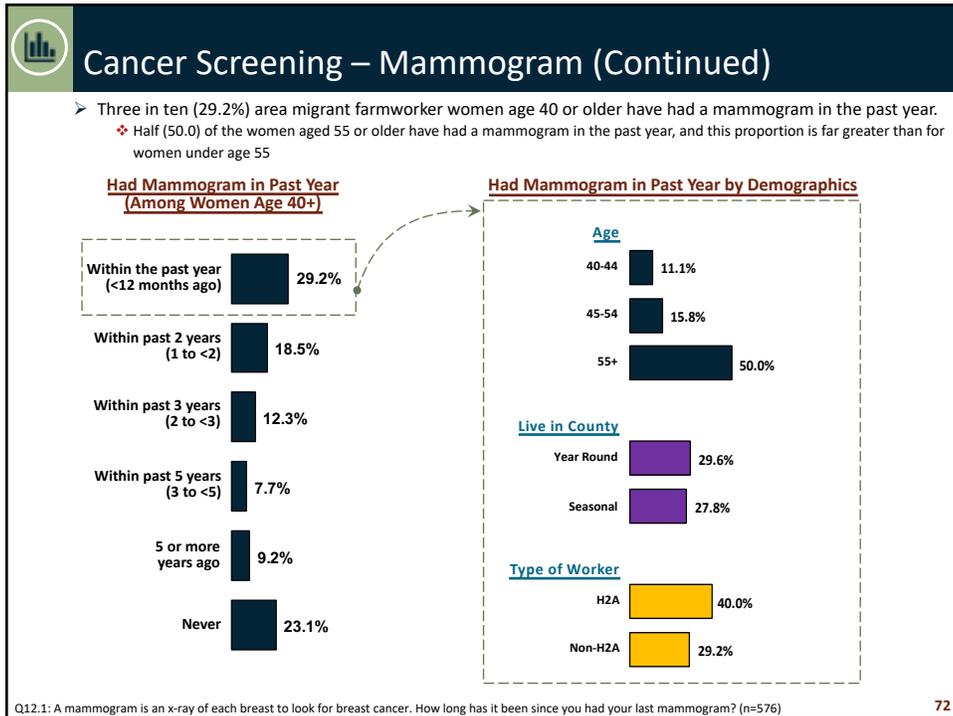
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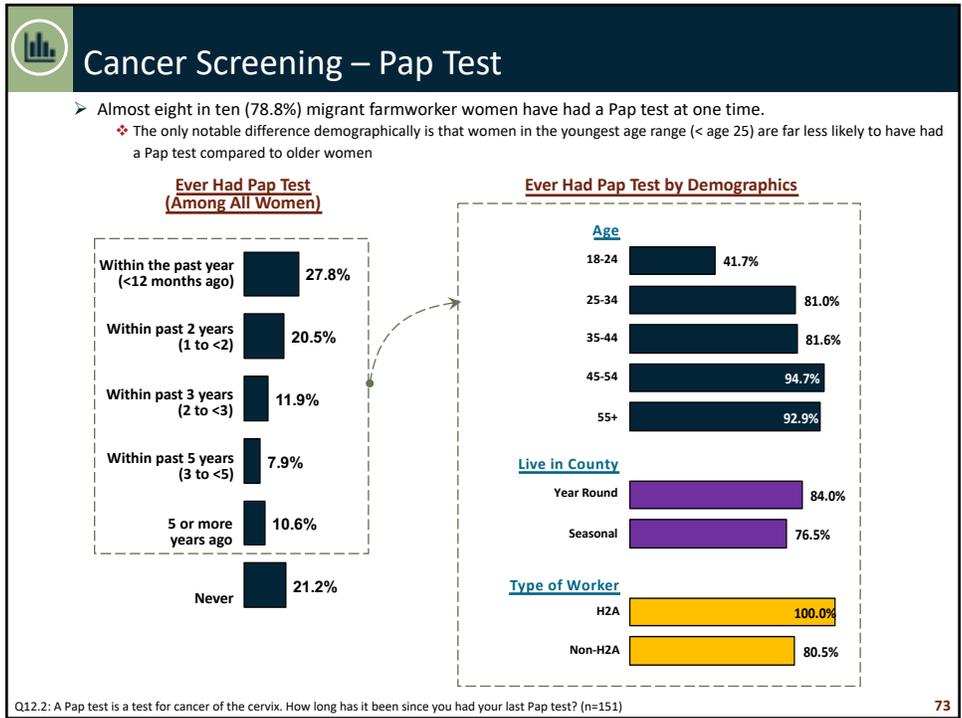
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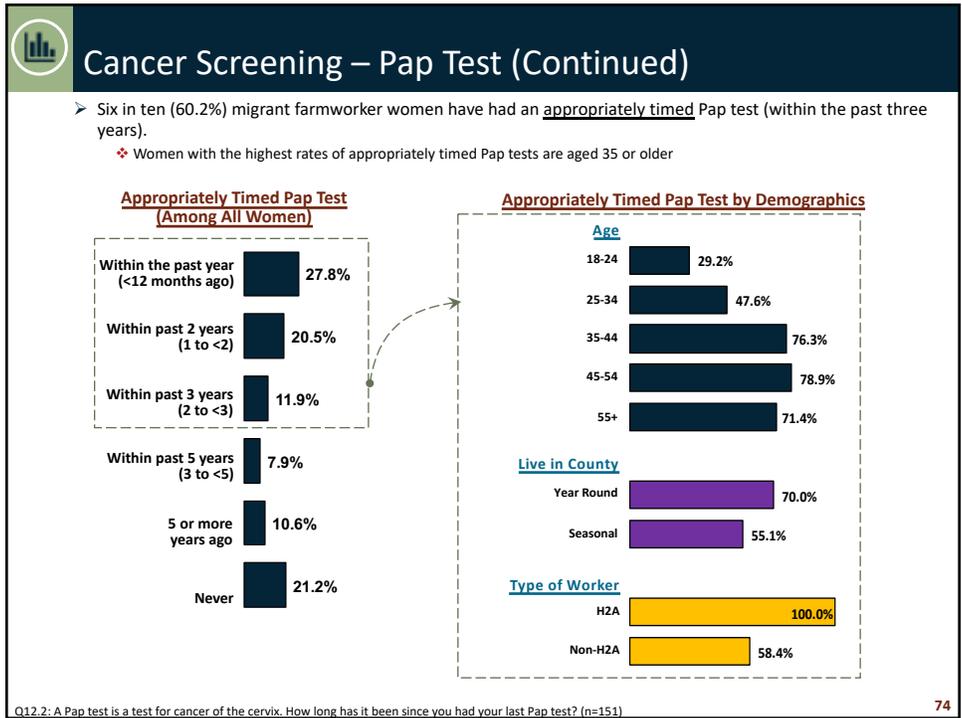
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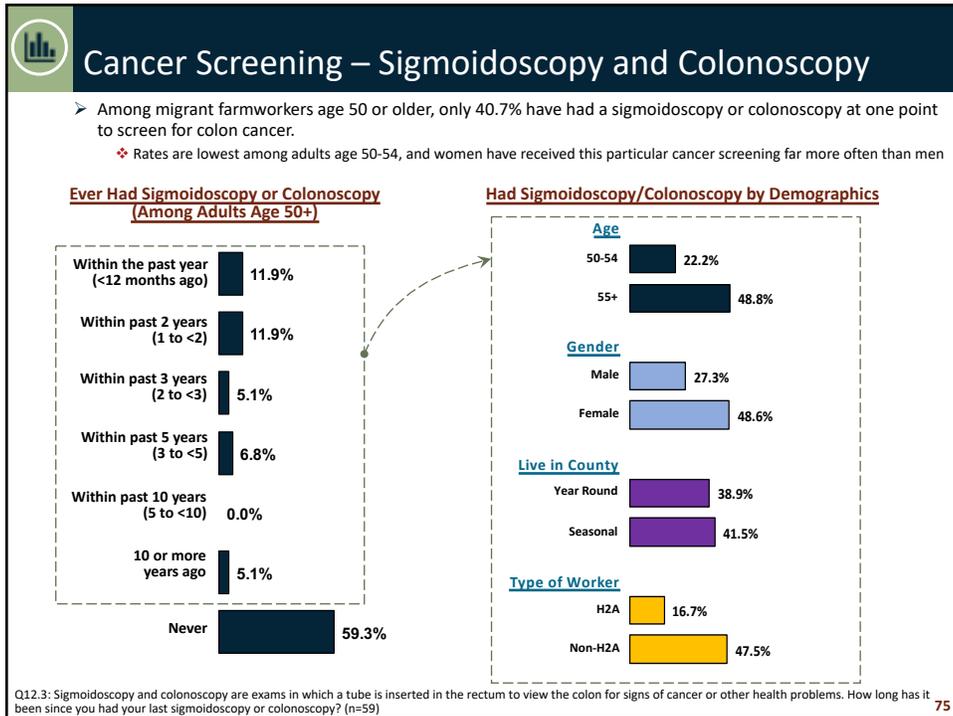
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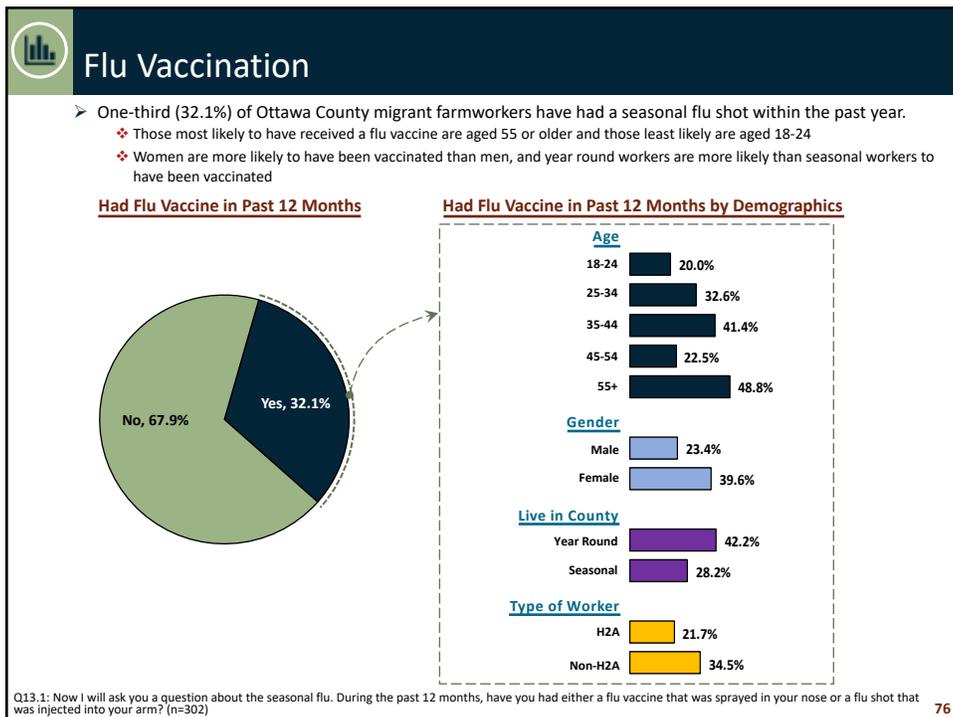
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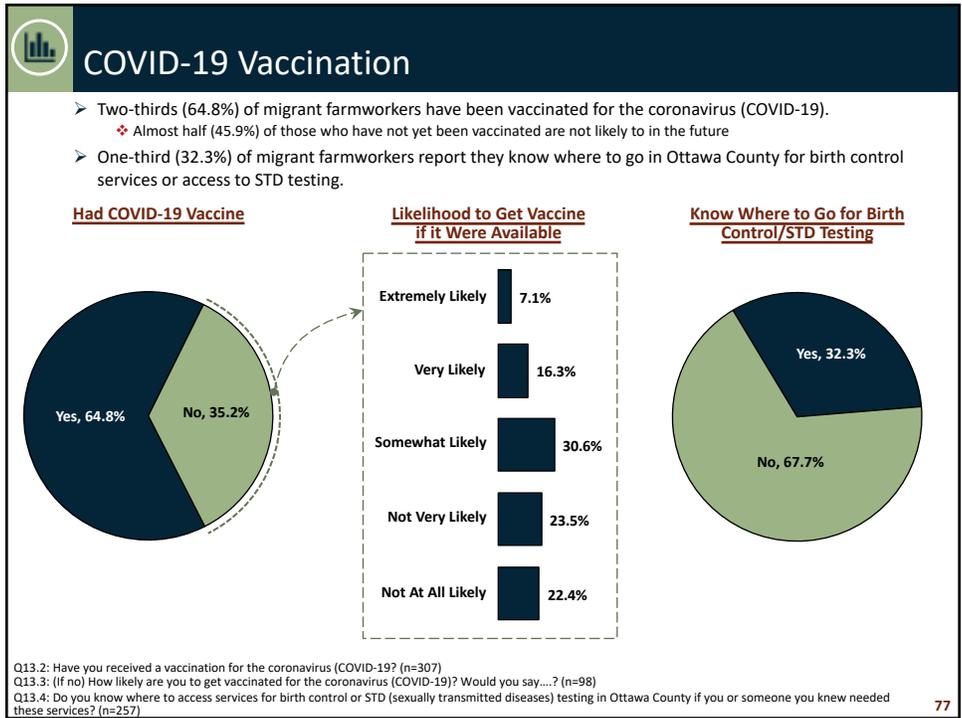
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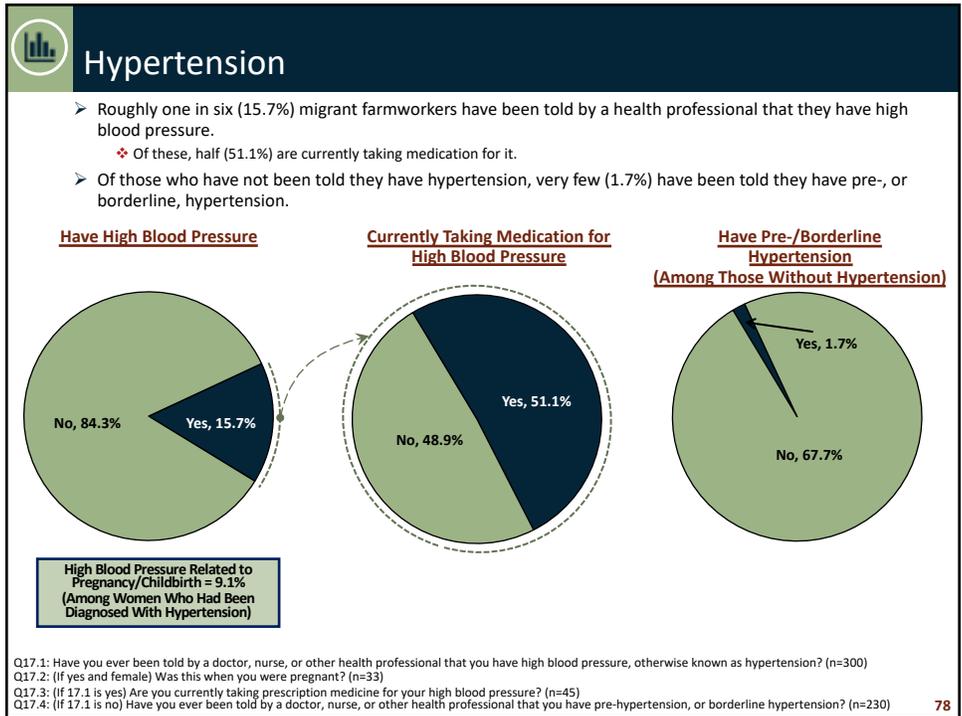
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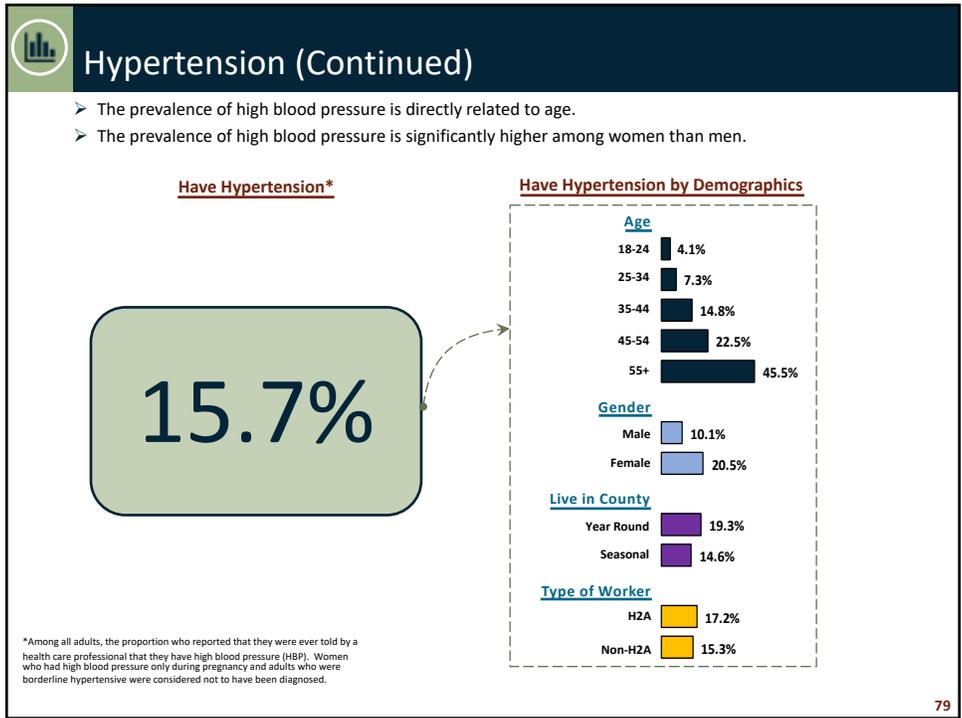
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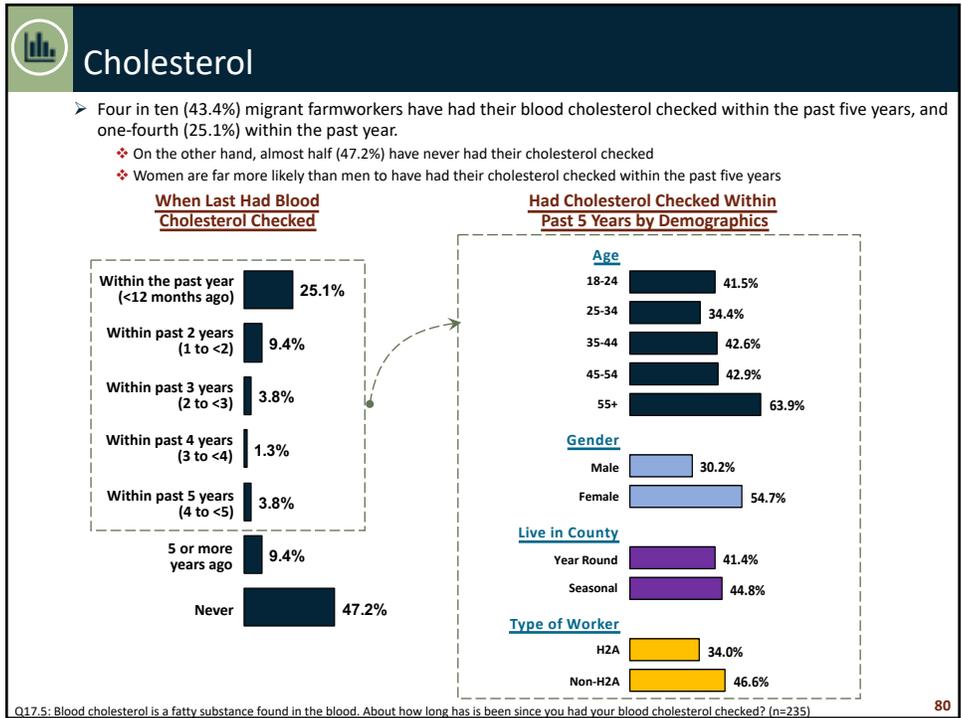
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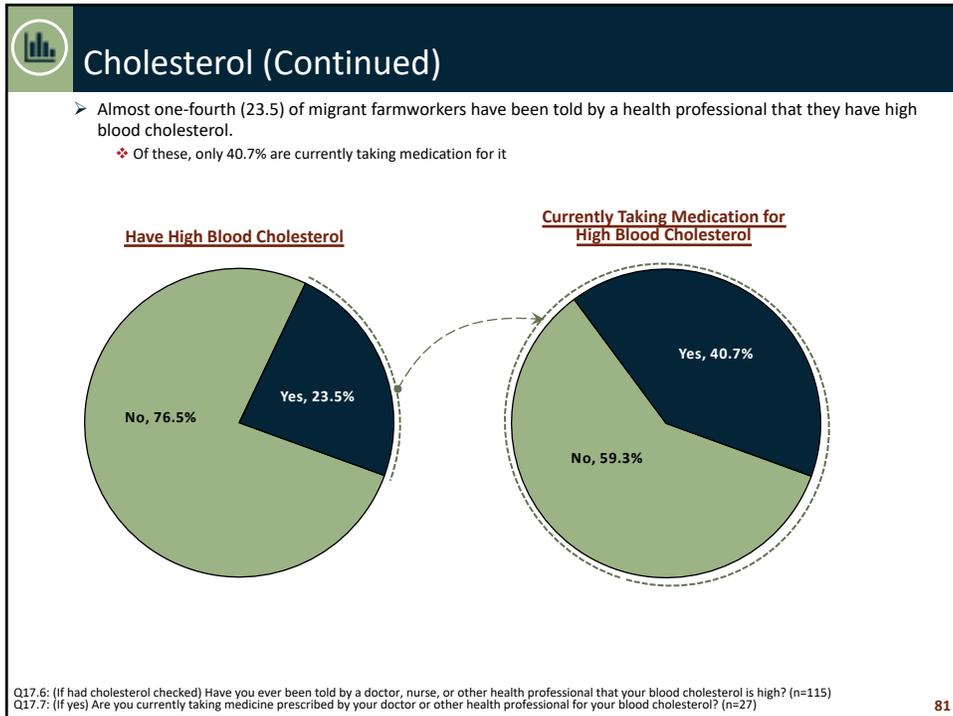
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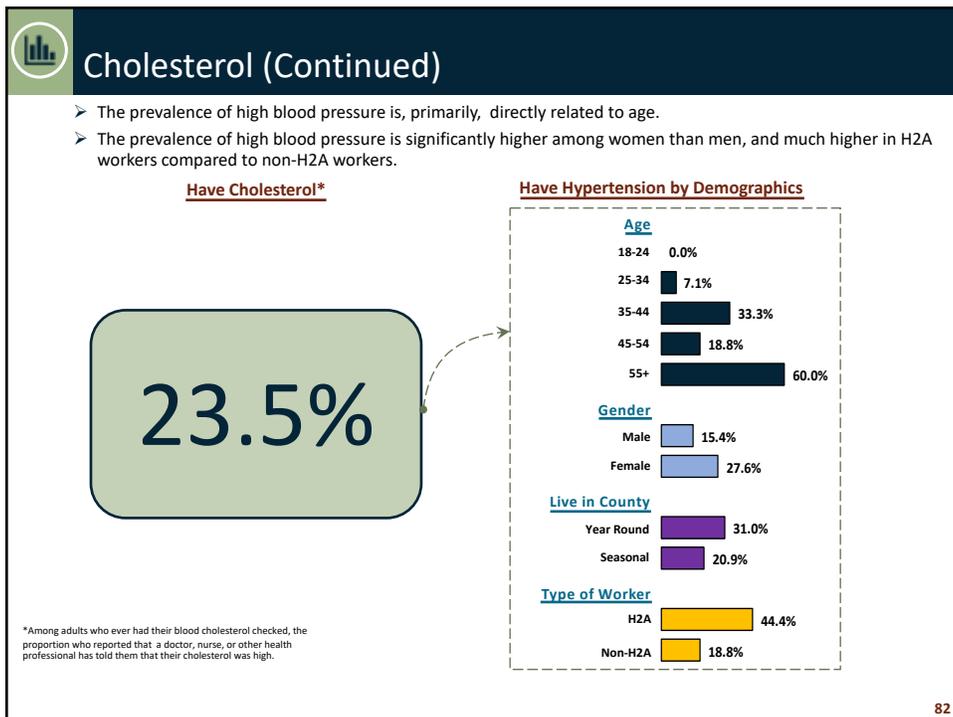
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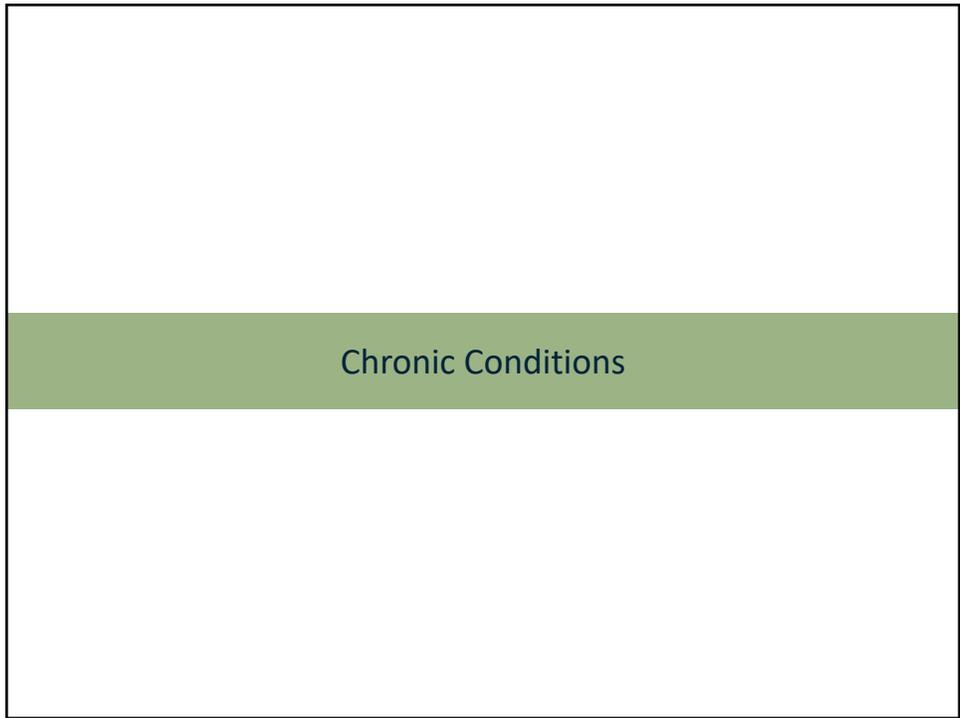
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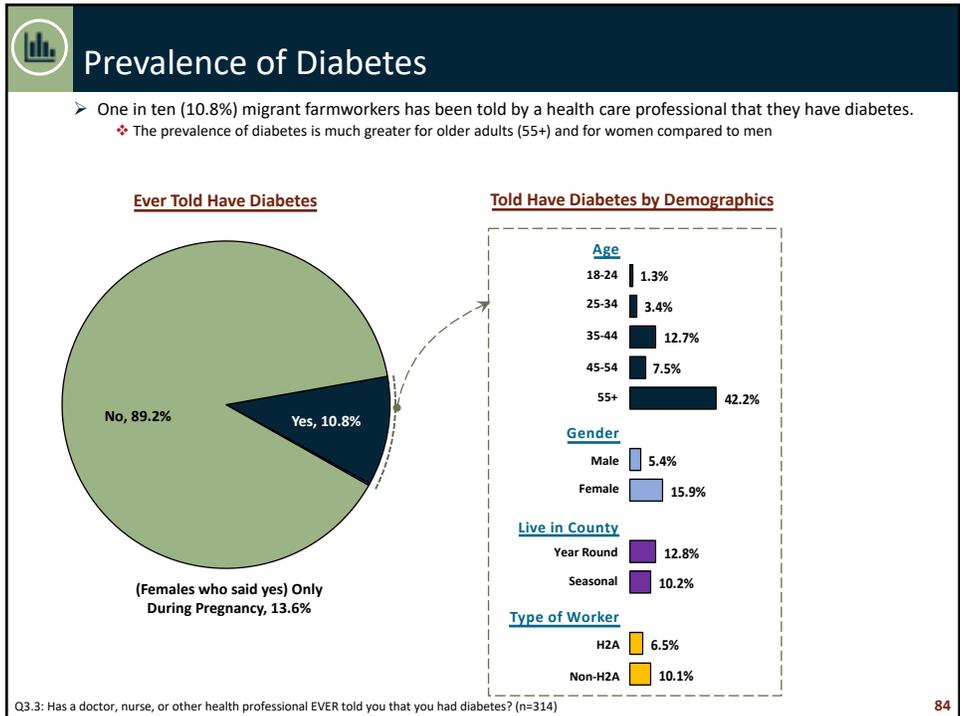


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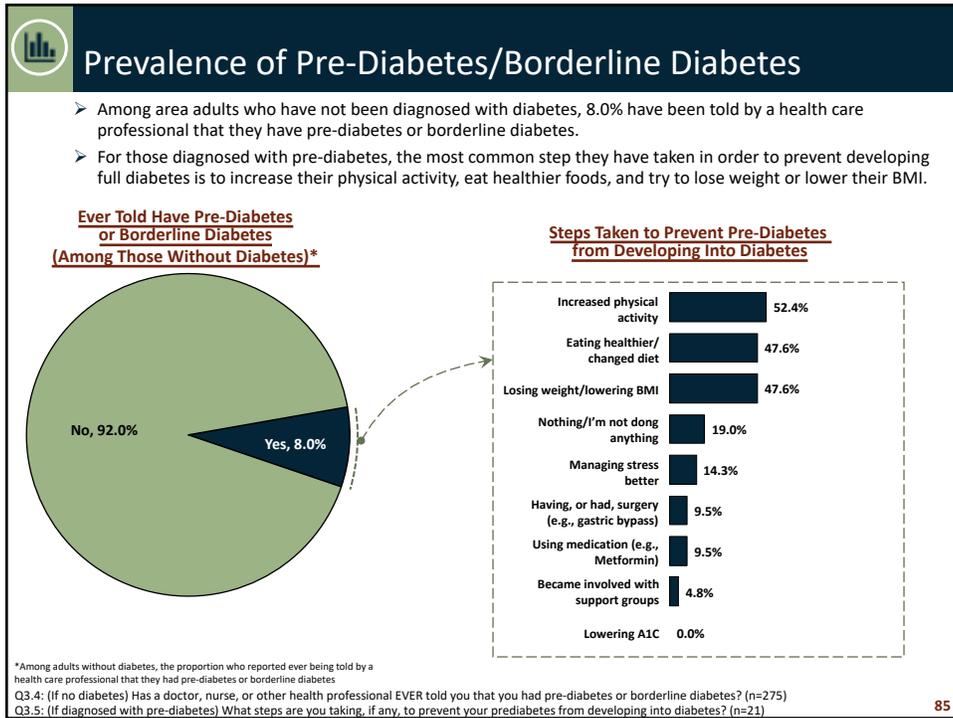


Chronic Conditions

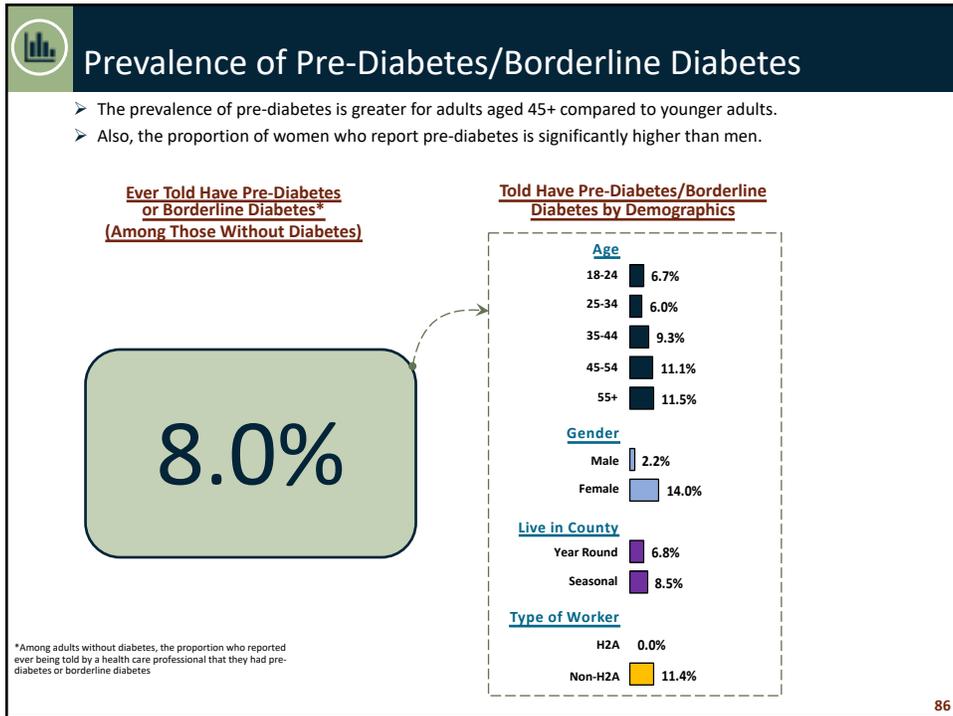
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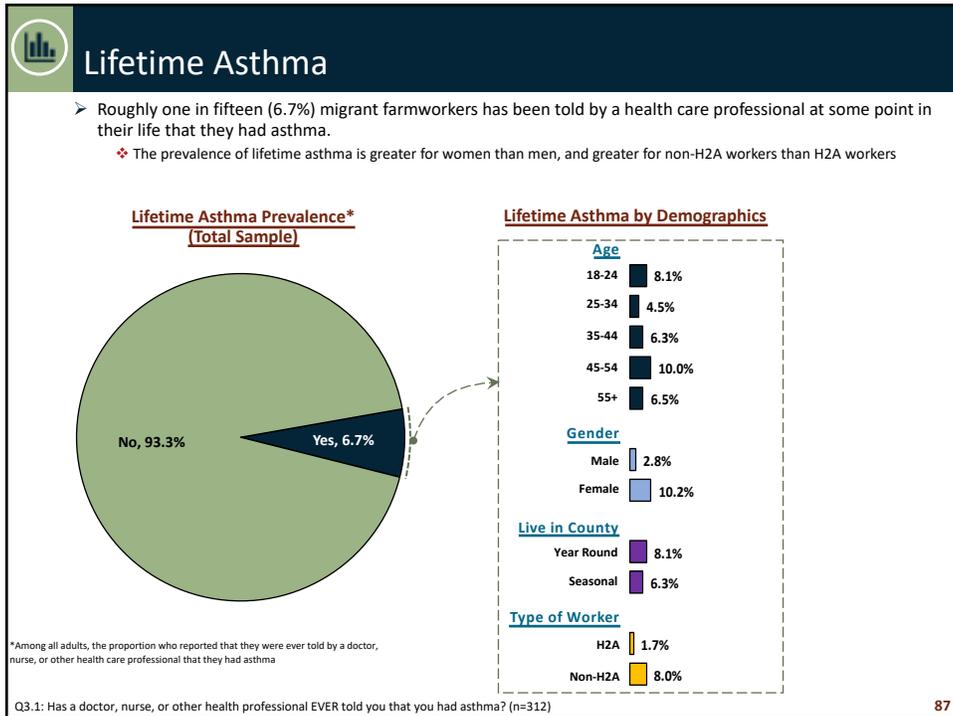
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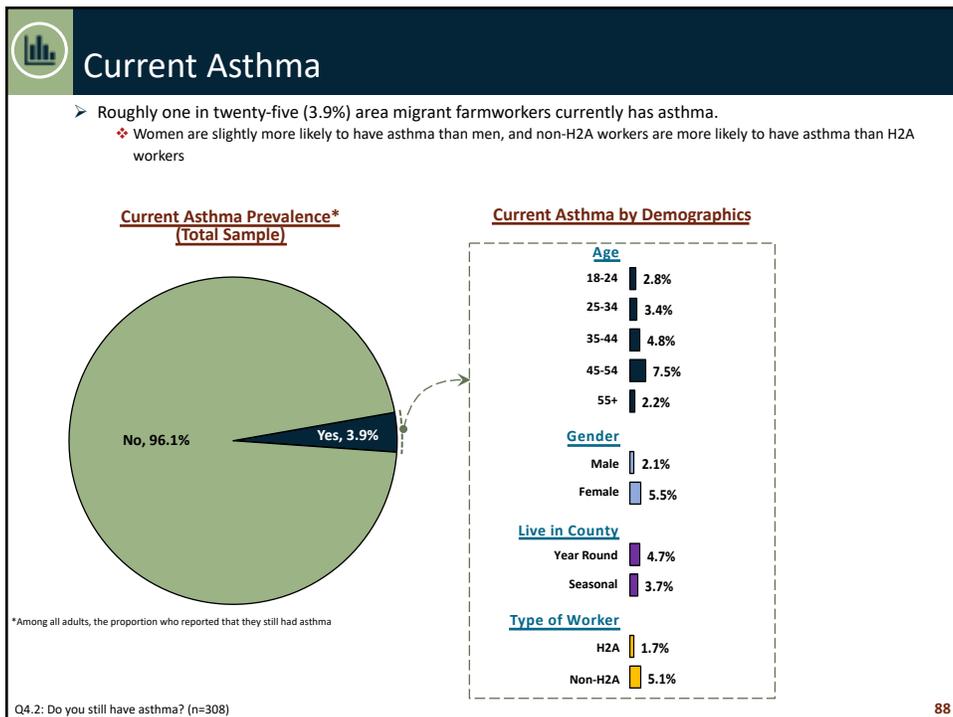
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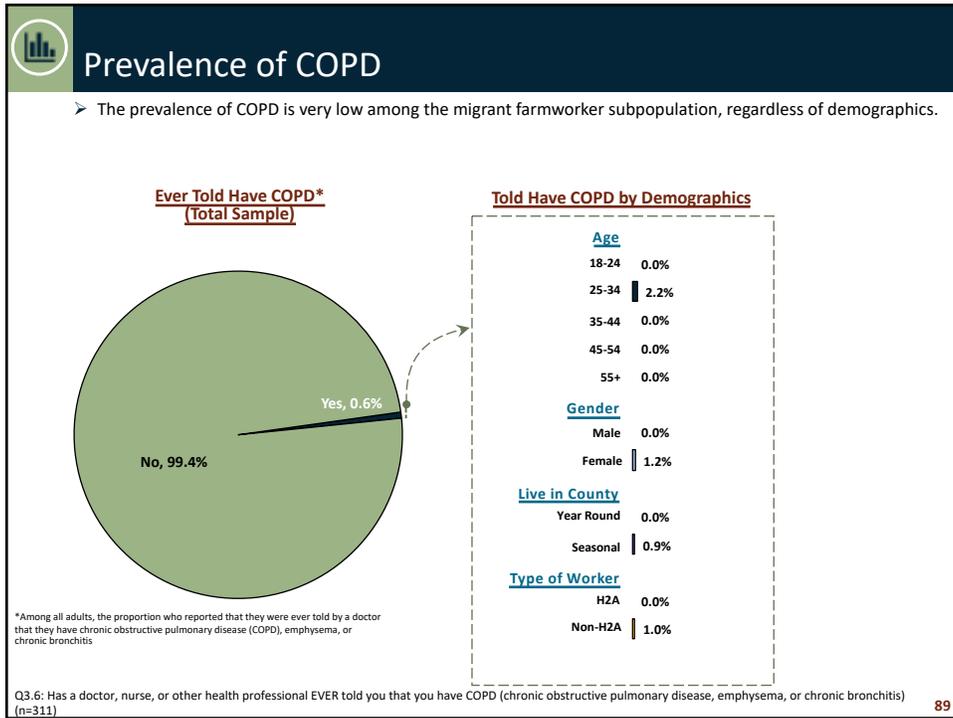
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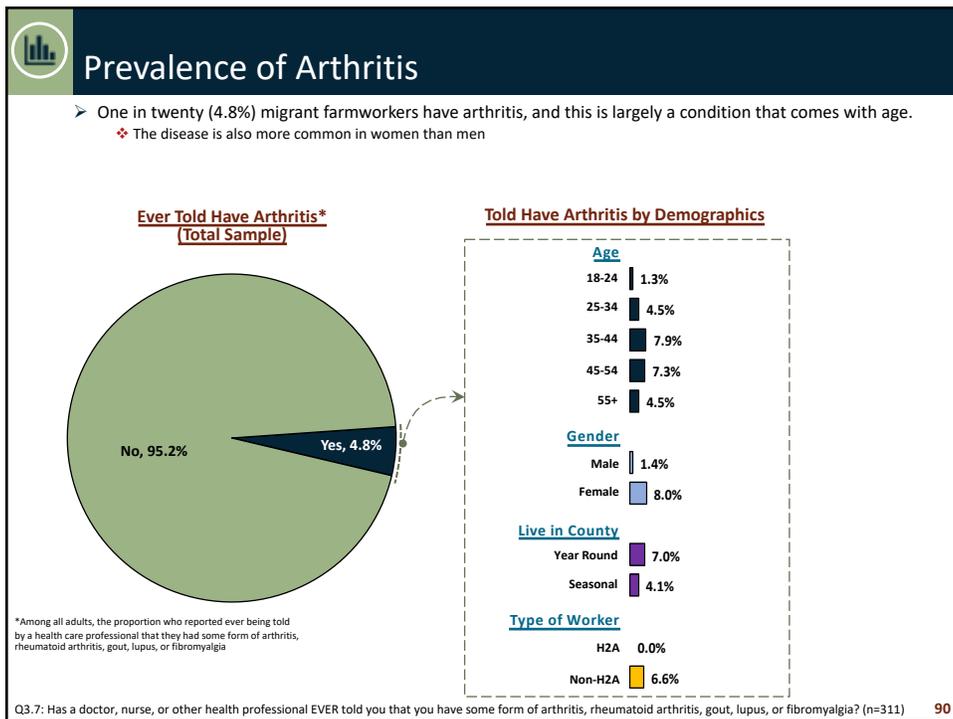
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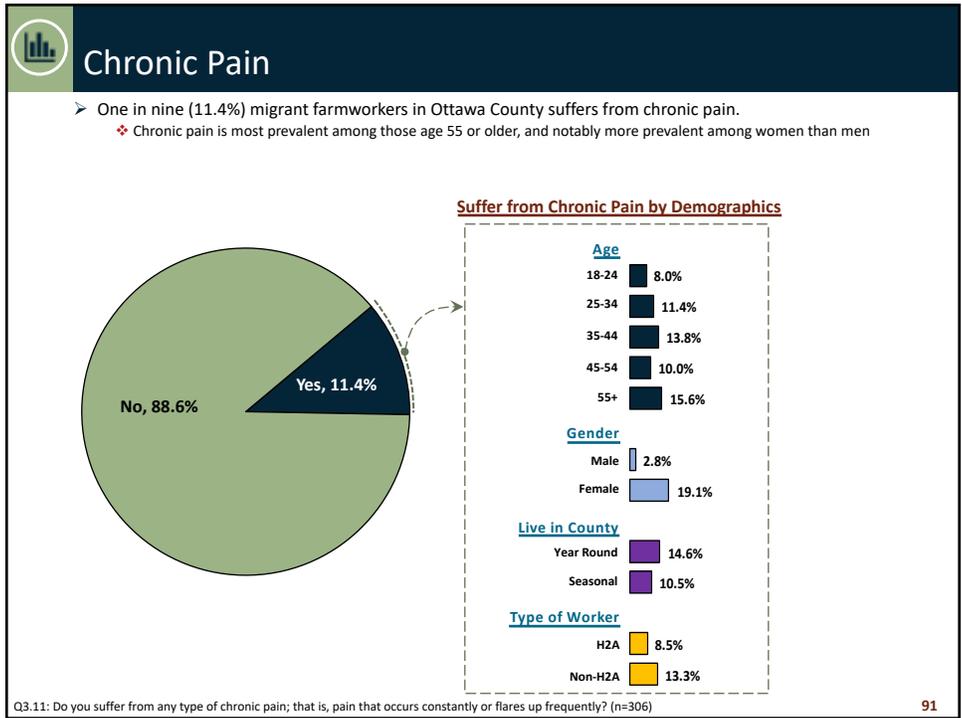
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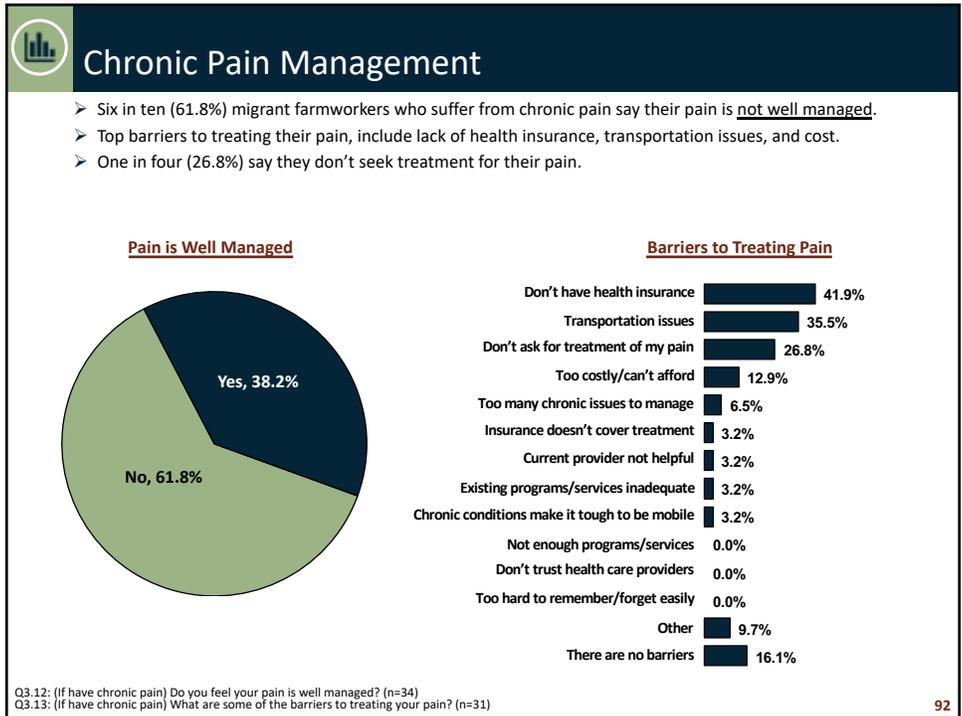
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Additional Health Problems

➤ When area migrant farmworkers were asked about additional health problems they have, myriad issues were mentioned, some of which were eventually covered in subsequent questions (e.g., high blood pressure, cholesterol).

- **High blood pressure (6)**
- **Cholesterol (3)**
- **Back problems/pain (2)**
- **Pregnant (2)**
- **Allergies**
- **Carpal tunnel**
- **Dental problems**
- **Diagnosed with bipolar**
- **Headache and foot pain**
- **Gastritis**
- **Heart condition**
- **Hernia**

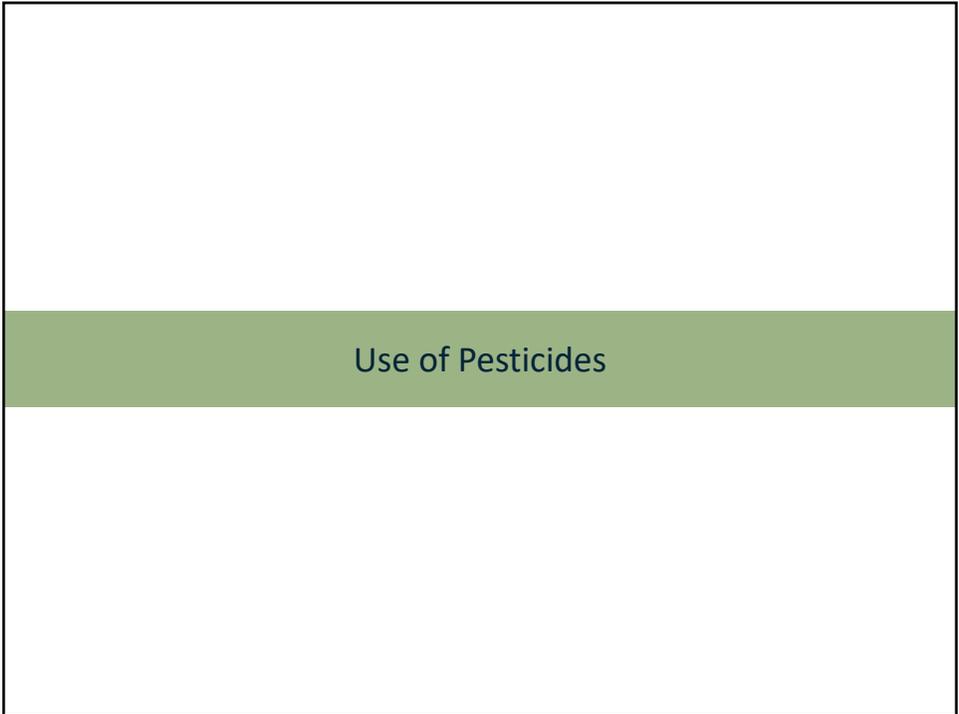
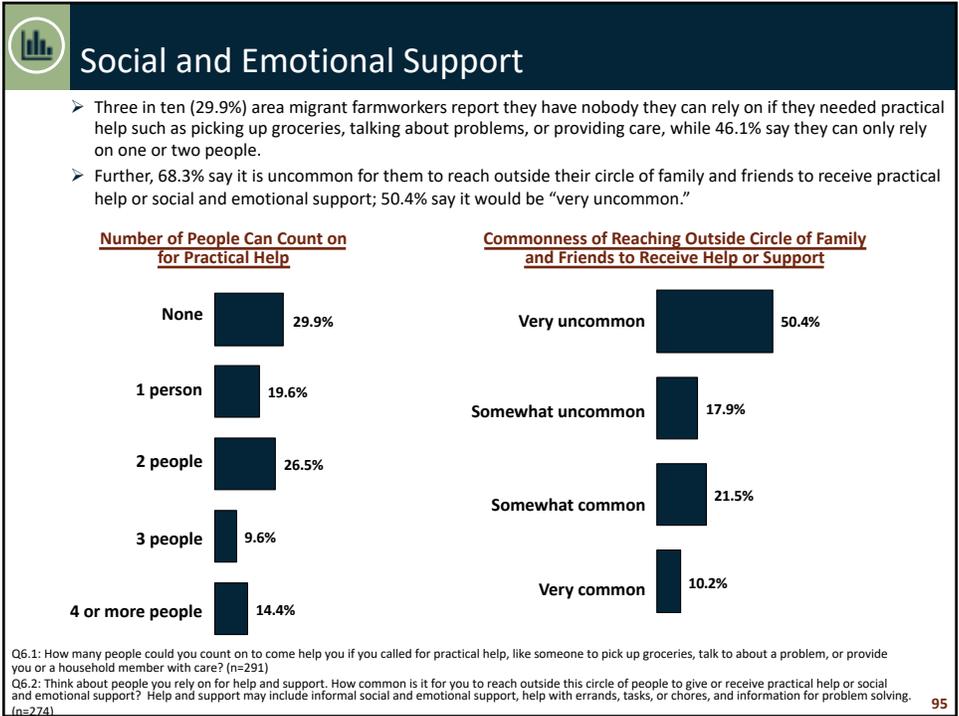
- **I think I might have diabetes but I haven't had the chance or know where to go.**
- **Mono**
- **Poor circulation**
- **Psoriasis**
- **Rash when out in the sun**
- **Recent surgery prevents me from doing some things**
- **Sinusitis**
- **Spontaneous head and stomach pain**
- **Vitiligo**
- **Wrist pain**

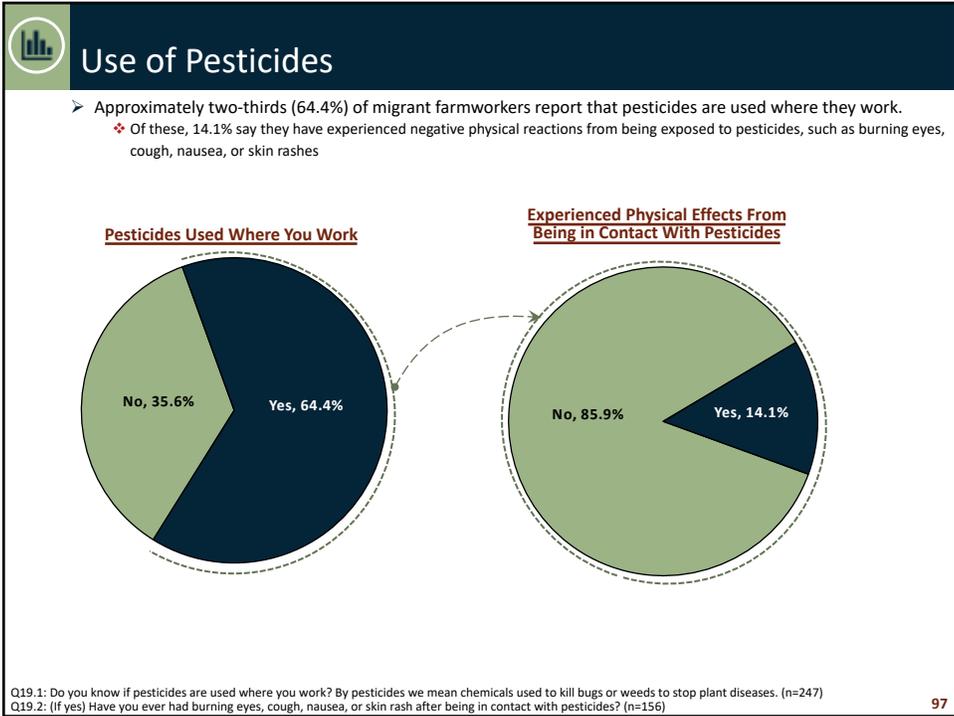
Q3.14: Do you have any other health problems that we haven't mentioned? If yes, what are they? Please be as detailed as possible. (n=25) 93

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Social and Emotional Support

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Community Connectedness and Inclusion

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Community Inclusion and Connection

- Clearly, migrant farmworkers in Ottawa County feel included in, and connected to, their community:
 - ❖ 77.5% believe Ottawa County is inclusive or welcoming of all people
 - ❖ 76.4% personally feel included or welcomed in Ottawa County
 - ❖ 80.8% personally feel respected or valued in Ottawa County, and
 - ❖ 65.7% personally feel connected to Ottawa County

What is your level of agreement with the following statements?				
Level of Agreement	"Ottawa County is inclusive, or welcoming, of <u>all</u> people" (n=262)	"I feel included, or welcomed, in Ottawa County" (n=288)	"I feel respected, or valued, in Ottawa County" (n=287)	"I feel connected to Ottawa County" (n=285)
Agree Strongly	48.9%	48.3%	46.0%	43.9%
Agree Slightly	28.6%	28.1%	34.8%	21.8%
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	13.0%	13.5%	12.5%	14.0%
Disagree Slightly	8.0%	8.3%	4.5%	11.9%
Disagree Strongly	1.5%	1.7%	2.1%	8.4%

Q18.1-Q18.4 What is your level of agreement with the following statements? Would you say you... 99

Discrimination

- Almost half (47.0%) of area migrant farmworkers find it difficult to deal with daily situations, such as running errands and shopping, because they have difficulty speaking English.
- One in nine (11.1%) report they have experienced discrimination in Ottawa County.
- Those who have experienced discrimination site myriad places where this has occurred, including, in stores, at work, at school, and from neighbors.

Find It Difficult to Deal with Daily Situations Because of English Skills

No	53.0%
Yes	47.0%

Have Been Discriminated Against in Ottawa County

No	88.9%
Yes	11.1%

From Where Experienced Discrimination

Stores	50.0%
Employers	36.7%
School	30.0%
Co-workers	26.7%
Neighbors	20.0%
Police	13.3%
Banks	13.3%
Landlords	3.3%
Other	10.0%

Q18.6: Do you find it hard to deal with daily situations, such as running errands and shopping, because you have difficulty speaking English? (n=296)
 Q18.7: Have you ever been discriminated against here in Ottawa County? (n=289)
 Q18.8: (If yes) From where did you experience discrimination? (Multiple responses accepted) (n=30) 100



Things That Would Make Migrant Farmworkers Feel More Connected to Ottawa County

- Area migrant farmworkers discussed many things that would help them feel more connected to their Ottawa County community, including a huge need for more information in Spanish about where local programs and services are located, preferably at the camps/farms. Also, having programs or services open during non-working hours, providing more public transportation, and less discrimination against Latinos/Hispanics, would all help increased connectedness.
- Further, continuing all of the outreach that currently exists at the camps/farms also helps increase connectedness.

"Having people come to the camps or **having information in Spanish at the camps** like the laundry hub I attended today. The lady always comes to give us a lot of information about what's happening in our area."

"Even though I've been coming here for 12 years I **don't know where many things are because we work all the time**, so maybe **have information at the farms?**"

"To **have people come give out information about where we can get help and where things are.**"

"I **don't know where many things are around here or where to go**. So maybe **have more information in the camps about that.**"

"An office where they would **give information of different agencies for Hispanics in Spanish.**"

"If there was a **clinic that was open late with people who spoke Spanish.**"

"**Less discrimination against Latinos.**"

"I had to go to the emergency room all the way to Muskegon **because North Ottawa could not help and didn't provide a translator. We need more staff who are bilingual.**"

"To **know more places where they speak Spanish.** Like a hospital, I had to go to, **they didn't have anyone to translate.**"

"Having **free transportation** and knowing where things are."

"More places to go when we need help. **Everything closes by the time we are done with work.**"

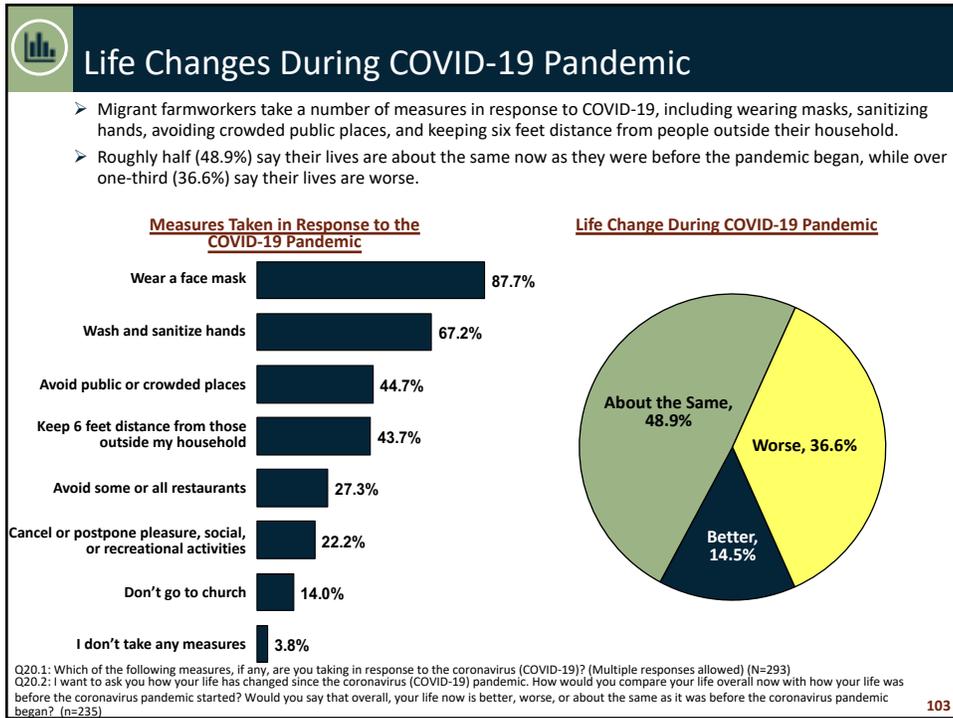
"My wife has to go places when I am at work and there's **no help with transportation. Having available transportation would help.**"

"I think there's a lot of people who come to the camps to help us feel connected and help. **Keeping that going helps.**"

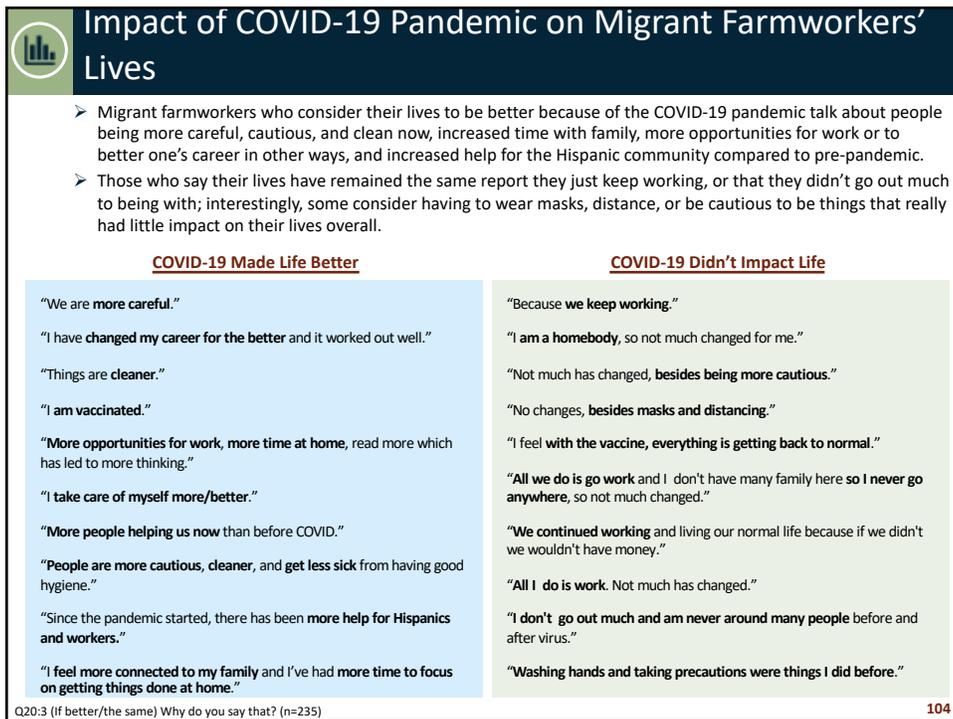
"There is a lot of **discrimination about the Latino immigrants.**"

Q18:5: (if 18.4>1) What would make you feel more connected to Ottawa County? Please be as detailed as possible. (n=145)

Coronavirus (COVID-19)



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 **Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on Migrant Farmworkers' Lives (Continued)**

- Migrant farmworkers who say the COVID-19 pandemic made their lives worse focus on the: (1) loss of freedom, (2) limitations on visiting family and friends, (3) division it created (between friends, family, strangers), (4) impact on mental health, and (5) financial impact.
- Some say it actually made people feel more anti-social and less connected to their communities.

COVID-19 Made Life Worse

<p>"I couldn't travel and see family."</p> <p>"With children it is hard to go out because I am afraid to expose them."</p> <p>"It was hard not to see family. It has created a lot of division in the world."</p> <p>"It was hard to work last summer with all restrictions."</p> <p>"I don't feel as free."</p> <p>"I got really depressed during covid and am still struggling."</p> <p>"My sister's mental health took a heavy toll and it has impacted the whole family."</p> <p>"COVID 19 has made us move from state to state for work and has caused problems with my relationship (separation). So now I'm a single mom of 4."</p> <p>"Don't have the same liberty as before because some things are still closed."</p>	<p>"I have had relationships problems due to work problems and bills not getting paid. Had to move from one state to another due to financial reasons."</p> <p>"People judge you if you don't get vaccinated. I am scared all the time."</p> <p>"Everything is taking longer and there's not much information, and if there is, it's confusing."</p> <p>"I have not seen my family or friends in a long time."</p> <p>"My wife lost her job and we are struggling financially."</p> <p>"Because I feel less connected to the world."</p> <p>"I cant socialize with the public, am more anti-social."</p> <p>"Because it was hard to work with a mask. I got covid."</p> <p>"It is hard...school for the kids, we cant leave, wearing masks all the time."</p>
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Q20:3 (If worse) Why do you say that? (n=235) 105

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APPENDIX

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Respondent Profile

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Gender, Age, Race/Ethnicity and Section of Residence

		TOTAL	
Gender		(n=316)	
Male		47.5%	
Female		52.5%	
Age		(n=319)	
18 to 24		24.1%	
25 to 34		27.9%	
35 to 44		20.1%	
45 to 54		13.1%	
55 to 64		11.9%	
65 and older		2.8%	
Race		(n=314)	
Hispanic		96.2%	
Non-Hispanic		3.8%	
Ethnicity		(n=313)	
Mexican, Mexican American, or Chicano/a		84.2%	
Guatemalan		12.4%	
Dominican		0.7%	
Cuban		0.3%	
Puerto Rican		0.3%	
Another Hispanic or Latino/a or Spanish origin		4.4%	

		TOTAL	
Live in Ottawa County		(n=313)	
Year round		28.1%	
Seasonally		71.9%	
(Year Round) Years Lived in Ottawa County		(n=87)	
Less than 1 year		1.1%	
1 to 2 years		11.5%	
3 to 5 years		19.5%	
6 to 10 years		25.3%	
11 to 20 years		23.0%	
More than 20 years		19.5%	
(Seasonal) Years Visited Ottawa County		(n=215)	
Less than 1 year		6.0%	
1 to 2 years		27.4%	
3 to 5 years		25.6%	
6 to 10 years		16.3%	
11 to 20 years		18.6%	
More than 20 years		6.0%	

		TOTAL	
Marital Status		(n=310)	
Married		53.5%	
Divorced		4.8%	
Widowed		2.6%	
Separated		3.2%	
Never married		24.5%	
A member of an unmarried couple		11.3%	
Adults in Household		(n=311)	
1 adult		11.3%	
2 adults		33.1%	
3 adults		21.5%	
4 adults		19.3%	
5 adults		5.1%	
More than 5 adults		9.6%	
Children in Household		(n=310)	
None		31.6%	
1 child		22.3%	
2 children		24.5%	
3 children		10.3%	
4 children		8.7%	
5 or more children		2.6%	

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Gender, Age, Race/Ethnicity and Section of Residence

	TOTAL
Education	(n=305)
Never attended school or only attended Kindergarten	6.9%
Grades 1-8 (elementary)	33.8%
Grades 9-11 (some high school)	27.5%
Grades 12 or GED (high school graduate)	19.3%
College 1-3 years (some college or tech school)	7.2%
College 4 years or more (college graduate)	5.2%
Employment	(n=278)
Full-time	81.7%
Part-time	10.8%
Unemployed/homemaker/retired	7.6%
H2A Worker	(n=262)
Yes	23.7%
No	76.3%

	TOTAL
Income (Annual)	(n=260)
Less than \$10,000	30.4%
\$10,000 to less than \$15,000	25.0%
\$15,000 to less than \$20,000	16.2%
\$20,000 to less than \$25,000	16.2%
\$25,000 to less than \$35,000	6.2%
\$35,000 to less than \$50,000	3.5%
\$50,000 to less than \$75,000	2.3%
\$75,000 or more	0.4%
Living Situation	(n=303)
Farm labor camp	69.3%
Apartment (not at labor camp)	6.9%
Condo (not at labor camp)	0.7%
House (not at labor camp)	10.9%
Trailer (not at labor camp)	11.2%
Other	1.0%

	TOTAL
Where Living	(n=302)
West Olive	40.4%
Grand Haven	20.2%
Holland (northside)	13.9%
Holland (southside)	8.9%
Zeeland	7.9%
Nunica	3.6%
Conklin	3.3%
Allendale	0.7%
Coopersville	0.7%
Ferrysburg	0.0%
Hudsonville	0.0%
Jamestown	0.0%
Jenison	0.0%
Lamont	0.0%
Macatawa	0.0%
Marne	0.0%
Spring Lake	0.0%
Other	0.3%