

CVHD RAPID COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT: COVID-19 VACCINATION

A rapid community assessment (RCA) is a process for quickly collecting community insights about a public health issue in order to implement more efficient or effective program design. Our local community outreach team conducted a RCA from June 6-25, 2022 in order to collect data surrounding COVID-19 vaccination decisions. This data will be used to target outreach materials in an effort to reach our community members with the information they need to make informed decisions.

RCA DATA SUMMARY-410 responses

Demographics:

County/City	Age	Race
Lynchburg- 37%	18-29: 12%	73% White
Amherst- 28%	30-49: 40%	22% Black/African American
Bedford- 16%	50-65: 37%	5% Other
Campbell- 7%	65+: 11%	*3% identified as Hispanic or Latino
Appomattox- 1%		
Outside district- 4%		

Vaccination status:

Approximately 74% of respondents stated they were fully vaccinated.

If you are not fully vaccinated against COVID-19, what is your reason for not being fully vaccinated?

Of those that were not vaccinated, the following reasons were cited for not being vaccinated.

- Concern about vaccine safety
- Religious/personal beliefs
- Medical
- Still have questions about the vaccine

If you are not vaccinated for COVID-19, what would motivate you to get vaccinated?

Of those that were not vaccinated, the majority of people stated nothing would motivate them to get vaccinated or they did not know what would motivate them. Some stated they would be motivated if it would protect their own health or the health of others.

What makes it difficult for you to get vaccinated?

The majority of people listed nothing/N/A make it difficult to get vaccinated. Of those that felt they have difficulty getting vaccinated, reasoning was cited as hours of operation, being too busy, difficult to arrange, and lack of time are the most common reasons.

If given a choice, where would you prefer to get the COVID-19 vaccine?

The top locations to get vaccinated, in order of preference, were: workplace, family physician or physician's office, freestanding pharmacy (i.e. Walgreens's or CVS) and in-store pharmacy (i.e. Target or Wal-Mart)

Do you have a child under the age of 18?

Roughly 38% of respondents had a child under 18.

If yes to child under the age of 18:

- 54.5% had a child/children between the ages of 5-11
- 50.6% had a child/children between the ages of 12-17.

Additionally, 59% of these minors are vaccinated against COVID 19.

If not, do you plan on getting your child/children vaccinated against COVID-19?

41%: definitely not

20%: wait and see

16%: don't know

13%: yes, as soon as possible

10%: only if required

If your child is not vaccinated against COVID-19, what has kept you from getting your child a COVID-19 vaccine?

The biggest concerns with getting their child/children vaccinated were safety concerns, side effect concerns, and the newness of the vaccine in that order.

Where do you go if you have questions about your health?

62% of respondents look to their family physician or for questions about their health followed by the internet and friends/family.

Do you have a hard time getting health services? If you replied yes, what challenges do you face getting health services?

10% of individuals found that they have a hard time getting access to health services. Those individuals listed difficulty finding or making an appointment, wait time for appointments, inconvenient hours, and expense as the biggest challenges in that order.

What do you think are the most important health issues in our community after COVID-19?

31% Mental and behavioral health
18% Substance abuse
14% Nutrition/food access
14% Chronic health conditions
11% Availability of services
13% Other entries

Takeaways:

1. There is potential to move the needle with children vaccination by providing more education on safety concerns and side effects.
2. Providing information and outreach to workplaces and pediatricians offices could be beneficial for countering misinformation.
3. It is difficult to reach the rural areas. In general, we need to focus more targeted efforts in the counties.