**SPOTLIGHT STORY**

**National Goal, State Averages: Florida vaccination number compared to national targets**

As Independence Day approaches, the U.S. government is focused on reaching its goal of 70% of adults receiving at least one shot of the COVID-19 vaccine.

How does Florida stack up? While vaccination rates have slowed in recent weeks, more than 10-million Floridians have received their first shot of the vaccine – equating to about 57% of the total population. This puts the state about 9% behind the national rate of 66% of people who have had at least one shot.

There are many ways to break down the vaccination data. We’re highlighting a few:

**By County:**
- 61.8% of all people in Charlotte County have received at least one dose
- 38.8% of all people in DeSoto County have received at least one dose
- 50.9% of all people in Manatee County have received at least one dose
- 64.1% of all people in Sarasota County have received at least one dose

**By Age:** Florida’s older populations (60+) have higher rates of vaccinations. The younger a person is, the less likely they are to have received a vaccine.

**By Race:** While we don’t have access to the county-level breakdown of vaccinations by race, we can look at the state-wide rates provided by the Multicultural Health Institute (as of June 17). Because each state tracks race and ethnicity slightly differently, national rates can be difficult to distill. However, overall, we see trends in Florida reflecting national trends.

- 21% of African-American or Black Floridians are vaccinated
- 35% of Hispanic/Latinx Floridians are vaccinated
- 41% of White Floridians are vaccinated

**By Gender:** Nationally, more women than men are receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. The same holds true in Florida. Of those vaccinated, 60% are women. It is critical for men to receive the vaccine as men have a higher morbidity rate if they contract COVID.

This holiday weekend, ensure that you and your loved ones are safe by following CDC guide-lines.

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Sarasota-Manatee groups work to increase Latino COVID-19 vaccination (Herald-Tribune)

By Elizabeth Djinis

Graciela Greenberg realized she wanted to host a vaccine clinic once she started reading the articles. The news told her that some Latinos were afraid to get vaccinated – they were worried about providing documents or paying. Greenberg, who is president of the Hispanic Democratic Caucus of Manatee County, thought there was a way to give back and host a vaccine clinic in her own community.

On Friday afternoon, the fruits of her hard labor came to pass. She helped organize a drive-through Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine clinic at the Palmetto Walmart from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., an ideal time because it takes place after traditional working hours. A promotional flyer explicitly stated in both English and Spanish that the vaccines were free and did not require proof of documentation or insurance.

Greenberg’s marketing must have struck a chord because days before the event, more than 300 people had called to reserve a spot. By pop-up clinic standards, that’s a huge number.

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Tired of searching for new graphics to share on social media or in your newsletter? We’ll have a new graphic weekly perfect for sharing.

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Want to find out more about vaccine demographics? Check out the Multicultural Health Institute’s dashboards.


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**CONTACT US**

Please forward this to your network, and when you have stories about overcoming and thriving during COVID-19, please send them to Abby Rolland at: ARolland@thepattersonfoundation.org

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