

Juntos Project
 Summary of Results and Discussion*
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Table 1.1. Basic Personal and Household Information

Variable	Average	Standard Deviation
Age of Participant	29.72 years old	12.36
Interview Length	27.27 minutes	11.56
Number of Members of Immediate Family in Philadelphia	2.45	2.3
Number of People Living in Household	5.24	1.06
Number of Children Living in Household	1.06	0.97
Months in the United States	39.15	66.7

Table 1.2. Basic Personal and Household Information

Question #	Question	Code	Response	Number	Percentage
	Gender	M	Males	21	41%
		F	Females	30	59%
2	Nationality		Mexican	47	92%
			Colombian	2	4%
			Ecuadorian	1	2%
			Peruvian	1	2%
6-1	Is your immediate family here with you?	a	Yes	41	80%
		b	No	10	20%
6-2	Which family members of your immediate family are here with you?***	a	Spouse	18	35%
		b	Son	7	14%
		c	Daughter	13	25%
		d	Brother	26	51%
		e	Sister	6	12%
		f	Mother	2	4%
		g	Father	2	4%
		h	Grandmother	1	2%
		i	Grandfather	0	0%
		j	Grandchildren	2	4%
7	In what type of home do you live?	a	Apartment owned by participant	0	0%
		b	Apartment rented by participant	13	25%
		c	House owned by participant	6	12%
		d	House rented by participant	30	59%
		e	Room rented by participant	2	4%
11-1	Why did you first decide to move to the U.S. from _____?***	a	To have a better life in general	14	27%
		b	Economic reasons	23	45%
		c	To be with spouse/family member	16	31%
		d	Escape a particular situation	6	12%
		e	To learn/to get to know country	4	8%

Table 2. Education and Employment Information

Question #	Question	Code	Response	Number	Percentage
3	Primary Language		Spanish	51	100%
			Also Nahuatl	5	10%
4-1	Able to Read and Write in Primary Language	a	Yes	46	90%
		b	No	5	10%
4-2	Do you speak English?	a	Yes, I am fluent.	2	4%
		b	I speak some English.	2	4%
		c	I speak very little English.	29	57%
		d	Not at all	18	35%
4-3	Are you able to read and write in English?	a	Yes	5	10%
		b	Some	14	27%
		c	Very little	19	37%
		d	No	13	25%
5	Through what grade/year did you attend school?	a	No education	1	2%
		b	Began Primary School Only (Grades 1-6)	7	14%
		c	Finished Primary School (Grade 6)	7	14%
		d	Began Secondary School (Grades 7 – 9)	6	12%
		e	Completed Secondary School (Grade 9)	12	24%
		f	Began Bachillerato/Preparatoria (Grades 10-12)	7	14%
		g	Completed Bachillerato/Preparatoria (Grade 12)	6	12%
		h	Attended College/University or Completed Post-High School Education	4	8%
		I	Completed University	1	2%
14-1	Do you currently work?	a	Yes	35	69%
		b	No	16	31%
14-2	In what are you employed?	a	Restaurant/food services	24	47%
		b	Housekeeping	4	8%
		c	Factory work	2	2%
		d	Farm worker	0	0%
		e	Construction work	0	0%
		f	Landscaping	0	0%
		g	Childcare, caring for elders/sick persons	1	2%
		h	Other	4	8%
21-1a	How many hours/week do you work?	a	25-40 hrs/wk	19	37%
		b	41-55 hrs/wk	5	10%
		c	56-70 hrs/wk	2	4%
		d	71-85 hrs/wk	5	10%
		e	86-100 hrs/wk	1	2%

Table 3.1. Health Care: Needs, Utilization, and Access:

Question #	Question	Code	Response	#	%
15	What are the most common health problems/illnesses here in this community?***	a	Dental	10	20%
		b	Optical	7	14%
		c	Ob/Gyn Issues	10	20%
		d	Mental Health (depression, alcoholism, etc)	11	22%
		e	Musculoskeletal & other pain (back, head, etc)	21	41%
		f	Acute respiratory & related conditions (cold, flu, cough, fever, allergies)	33	65%
		g	Stomach infection/stomach pain	9	18%
		h	Poor access to services (child development, general check-ups, pediatric health)	4	8%
		I	Accidents in the workplace	3	6%
		j	Poor living conditions	5	10%
		k	Cancer	8	16%
		L	STDs & AIDS	6	12%
		m	Chronic conditions (heart, HTN, DM, etc)	14	27%
		n	Other (hernias, bloody nose, blisters, fungus)	4	8%
x	No response	7	14%		
16-1	In the past year, have you suffered from any illness, accident, or other health problem even if it was not serious?	a	Yes	40	78%
		b	No	11	22%
16-2	From what illness, accident, or health problem did you suffer?***	a	Acute respiratory and related conditions	14	27%
		b	Musculoskeletal & other pain	17	33%
		c	Toothache and other dental problems	13	25%
		d	Stomach infection/stomach pain	4	8%
		e	Mental health (depression, anxiety)	3	6%
		f	Ob-Gyn Issues (Prenatal Care, UTI's, breast)	3	6%
		g	Accidents and Assaults (falls, violence, burns)	6	12%
		h	Other (Fainting, Skin, Bell's Palsy, etc)	4	8%
17	For the illness or accident from which you suffered last year, did you have to stop working, studying, or carrying out your normal activities?	a	Yes	16	31%
		b	No	24	47%
18-1	When you were sick or injured (or went for you check-up), whom did you consult?***	a	Physician, Dentist, etc	26	51%
		b	Psychiatrist, psychologist	2	4%
		c	Nurse Practitioner or Nurse	1	2%
		d	Health promoter	0	0%
		e	Curandero	0	0%
		f	Pharmacist	0	0%
		g	Relatives or household members	1	2%
		h	Home remedies/self-medicated	4	8%
		I	Participant did not do anything	12	24%
		j	Other	2	4%
18-2	For what reason did you not consult a physician, dentist, psychologist, nurse, curandero, or pharmacist?***	a	Problem was not serious	6	12%
		b	Fear that he/she would not receive care; did not want to wait any longer in the ER	3	6%
		c	Did not know where to go/did not know anyone/ no nearby clinic	4	8%
		d	Too expensive/ no health insurance	7	14%
		e	Other (language barrier; did not want to miss work; did not think anything would help, breast feeding and cannot take medicine)	7	14%

Within the 78% of participants (40 individuals) that were sick within this past year, 95% (38 individuals) went to a clinic and/or hospital for treatment. Of these 38 individuals, the following table describes where they chose to receive medical assistance:

Table 3.2 Health Care Utilization**

Name of Hospital/Clinic	Number of Individuals	% of Individuals
Pennsylvania Hospital	1	2%
Thomas Jefferson University Hospital	1	2%
Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania	2	4%
Methodist Hospital Division	1	2%
District Health Clinic	7	14%
Maria de los Santos	4	8%
Dr. Castillo	8	16%
Other (another hospital, public or private clinic)	14	27%

Table 3.3. Health Risks Assessment

Question #	Question	Code	Response	#	%
21-1	Do you work too much? (Recall, 65% of participants are currently working)	a	Yes	9	18%
		b	No/ not applicable	42	82%
21-2	How many hours a day do you work? (answer in hours per week)	a	25-40	19	37%
		b	41-55	5	10%
		c	56-70	2	4%
		d	71-85	5	10%
		e	86-100	1	2%
21-3	Are you exposed to chemicals at work?	a	Yes (all identified cleaning fluids as the chemical)	5	10
		b	No	39	76
21-4	Do you smoke?	a	Yes (6 reported drinking 1-3 drinks/month; 5 reported consuming 1-3 drinks/week)	11	22%
		b	No	40	78%
21-5	Do you use drugs/chemicals products?	a	Yes	0	0%
		b	No	51	100%
21-6	Are there other activities that you feel are risky to your health?	a	Yes	12	24%
		b	No	39	76%
21-6a	Can you specify which other activities are risky to your health?	a	Work-related risks/accidents at work	4	8%
		b	Coming home from work at night, risk of street violence	5	10%
		c	Exposure to cigarette smoke/marijuana from neighbors	1	2%
		d	Lack of medical attention	1	2%
		e	Eating greasy foods	1	2%

Table 4. Mental, Emotional, and Psychosocial Health

Question #	Question	Code	Response	#	%
12-1	When you crossed the border between _____ and the U.S, were you a _____:**	a	Victim of an accident	2	4%
		b	Victim of assault (Someone robbed you of money or possessions, abused you verbally, psychologically, or emotionally)	9	18%
		c	Victim of physical abuse (You were beaten, held hostage, or tortured)	3	6%
		d	Victim of sexual abuse	2	4%
		e	Witness of an accident	0	0%
		f	Witness of an assault	6	12%
		g	Witness of physical abuse	3	6%
		h	Witness of sexual abuse	1	2%
		x	Not victim/witness of any of above	36	71%
13-1	Were you a victim or witness of torture in your country of origin?	a	Yes	13	25%
		b	No	38	75%
22-1	Do you suffer from depression or anxiety?	a	Yes	30	59%
		b	No	21	41%
23-1	Have you been hospitalized for psychiatric reasons?	a	Yes	0	0%
		b	No	51	100%
24-1	Have you experienced auditory or visual hallucinations at any point in your life?	a	Yes	5	10%
		b	No	46	90%
25-1	In general, have you ever felt unsafe in your current place of residence?	a	Yes	30	59%
		b	No	21	41%
26-1	Have you been a victim of domestic violence or family violence?	a	Yes	19	37%
		b	No	32	63%
27-1	Have you been a victim or witness of any form of physical violence while here in the US or in your country of origin?	a	Yes	32	63%
		b	No	19	37%
28-1	Have you been a victim of rape or sexual abuse?	a	Yes	13	25%
		b	No	38	75%
	During your childhood or during your adult life?	a	During childhood (0 – 17 years old)	11	22%
		b	During adulthood (18+ years old)	2	4%

Overall, the topics of mental, emotional, and psychosocial health were challenging issues to address with this population. Open discussion at times seemed to be impeded at times, which could have been due to the absence of a longstanding relationship with the interviewers as well as cultural barriers to discussing these topics. Nevertheless, many of the participants revealed the existence of violence and mental health concerns in the past and in the present. In addition, the existing relationship between the participants and the staff at Juntos fostered an initial rapport and helped the participants to trust the interviewers.

59% of the participants report that they “suffer from depression or anxiety.” This is not a clinical statistic, as the interviewers did not complete a clinical assessment for any of the DSM-IV diagnoses of these mental health disorders. Yet, these results do indicate that there are mental health issues within this population. Several of the participants were already accessing mental health services, mostly with a counselor through Juntos/WOAR (Women Organized Against