

MISSOURI FARMERS AND ARTHRITIS SURVEY RESULTS

GENDER: Male: 27 Female: 17

AVERAGE AGE: 62

LIVING STATUS: Live on farm: 67% Do not live on farm: 33%

MOST COMMON TYPES OF ARTHRITIS ARE?

Osteoarthritis (OA); Rheumatoid (RA); more than 33% Don't Know Diagnosis

JOINTS AFFECTED BY ARTHRITIS (% of Total Reported):

▪ Hands/Wrists	30%
▪ Knees	18%
▪ Hips	7%
▪ Neck/Back	18%
▪ Feet/Ankles	10%
▪ Arms/Shoulders	16%

ARTHRITIS IMPACT ON WORK:

- 66% Report activity limitations
- 25% Report they are not able to work on the farm all or most days
- 33% Report working shorter days

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PROBLEMS EXPERIENCED DUE TO ARTHRITIS:

▪ Difficulty manipulating small objects	25%
▪ Restricted lifting	15%
▪ Difficulty bending	15%
▪ Tire easily	15%
▪ Limited mobility/reaching	25%
▪ Repetitive motions	10%

REPORTED ARTHRITIS MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES:

▪ Taken medication	▪ 43%
▪ Exercise	▪ 36%
▪ Decreased physical labor	▪ 36%
▪ Lost weight	▪ 32%
▪ Seen Rheumatologist	▪ 20%
▪ Diet change	▪ 18%
▪ Hired help	▪ 14%
▪ Changed the way you farm	▪ 11%
▪ Joint replacement	▪ 7%

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RELATIONSHIPS AMONG THE VARIABLES:

- Those who do not have a physician's diagnosis of arthritis are more likely to report that they are doing VERY WELL.
- Those who do not have a physician's diagnosis are less likely to have seen a rheumatologist.
- Those who do not have a diagnosis of arthritis are less likely to take medication for their arthritis.
- **PROBLEMS EXPERIENCED DUE TO ARTHRITIS:**
 - Those who have finger arthritis reported having difficulty manipulating small objects more than those who did not report finger arthritis.
 - Those who have more joints affected by arthritis reported a greater number of problems experienced due to the arthritis.
 - Those who have fewer joints affected by arthritis work fewer "short days" than those with more joints affected.