

What does the public think about Farm Security

The Southeastern Coastal Center for Agricultural Health and Safety recently surveyed 1,035 residents in 11 southeast states to investigate public perceptions of national security, specifically related to farm security. The survey was conducted in August of 2025.

Farm Security

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) defines farm security as “safeguarding the American food supply, strengthening critical infrastructure, and defending U.S. agricultural innovation from foreign adversaries.” Respondents were asked how familiar they were with the term “farm security” and over 50% of respondents indicated they were not familiar at all with the term.

Key Components of Farm Security

After defining farm security, respondents identified agroterrorism, water shortages and outbreaks of animal-borne disease as key components, with agroterrorism at 63% and water shortages and outbreaks of animal-borne disease at 62% as the top responses.



63%
Agroterrorism



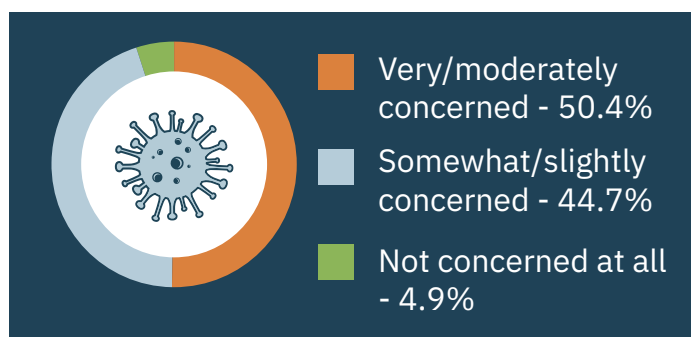
62%
Water shortages



62%
Animal-borne disease

Animal-borne Disease

When respondents were asked how concerned they were about diseases spreading from livestock or wildlife to humans, 50% indicated they were very/moderately concerned.



Eighty three percent of respondents indicated that they think federal regulations should be put in place to reduce the risk of disease transmission from animals to humans.

Investing in Farm Security

When asked what type of investments or protections they would support to strengthen farm security, 62% of respondents said they would support rural infrastructure and 60% indicated they would support programs to attract labor to agriculture.

61% of respondents indicated they would like to learn more about how **food systems** are tied to **national security**.

This survey shows that U.S. residents agree that agriculture and natural resource issues are key components of national security.