

# Prevalence and Predictors of SARS-CoV-2 Infection among Farmworkers in Monterey County, CA



## Who?

1091 adult farmworkers

## How?

Recruited from clinics and community outreach

## Where?

Salinas Valley, Monterey County

## What?

PCR oropharyngeal testing, antibody testing in blood, phone interview

## Main study findings

**13%**

had active SARS-CoV-2 infection (PCR positive)

**20%**

were antibody positive by end of October

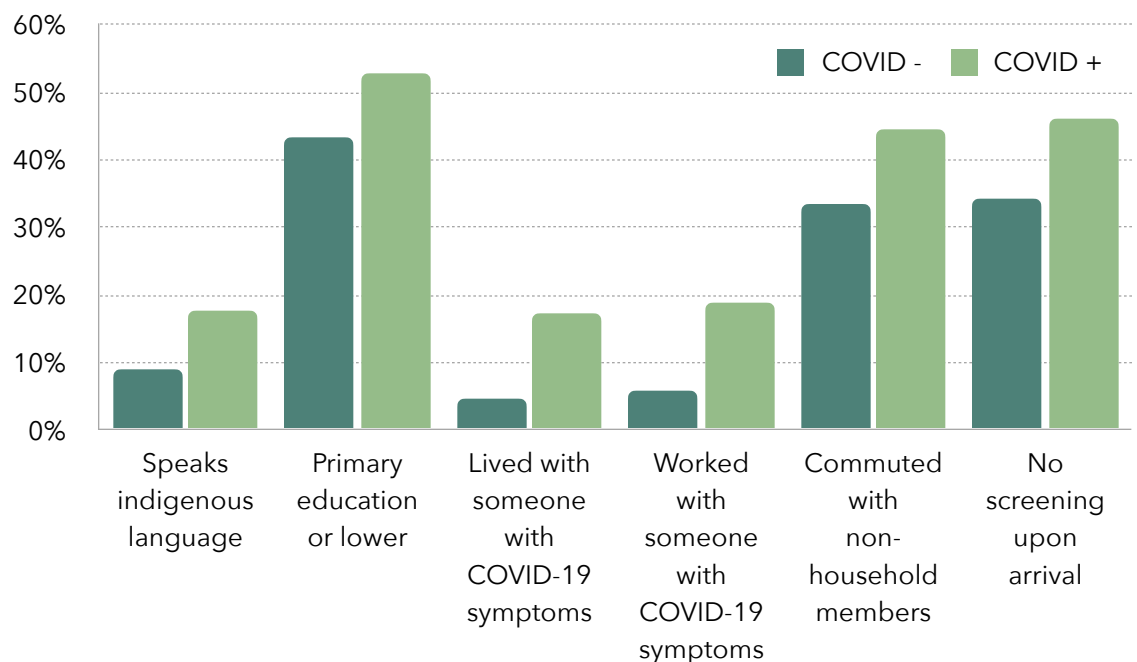
**42%**

had an active infection and no symptoms

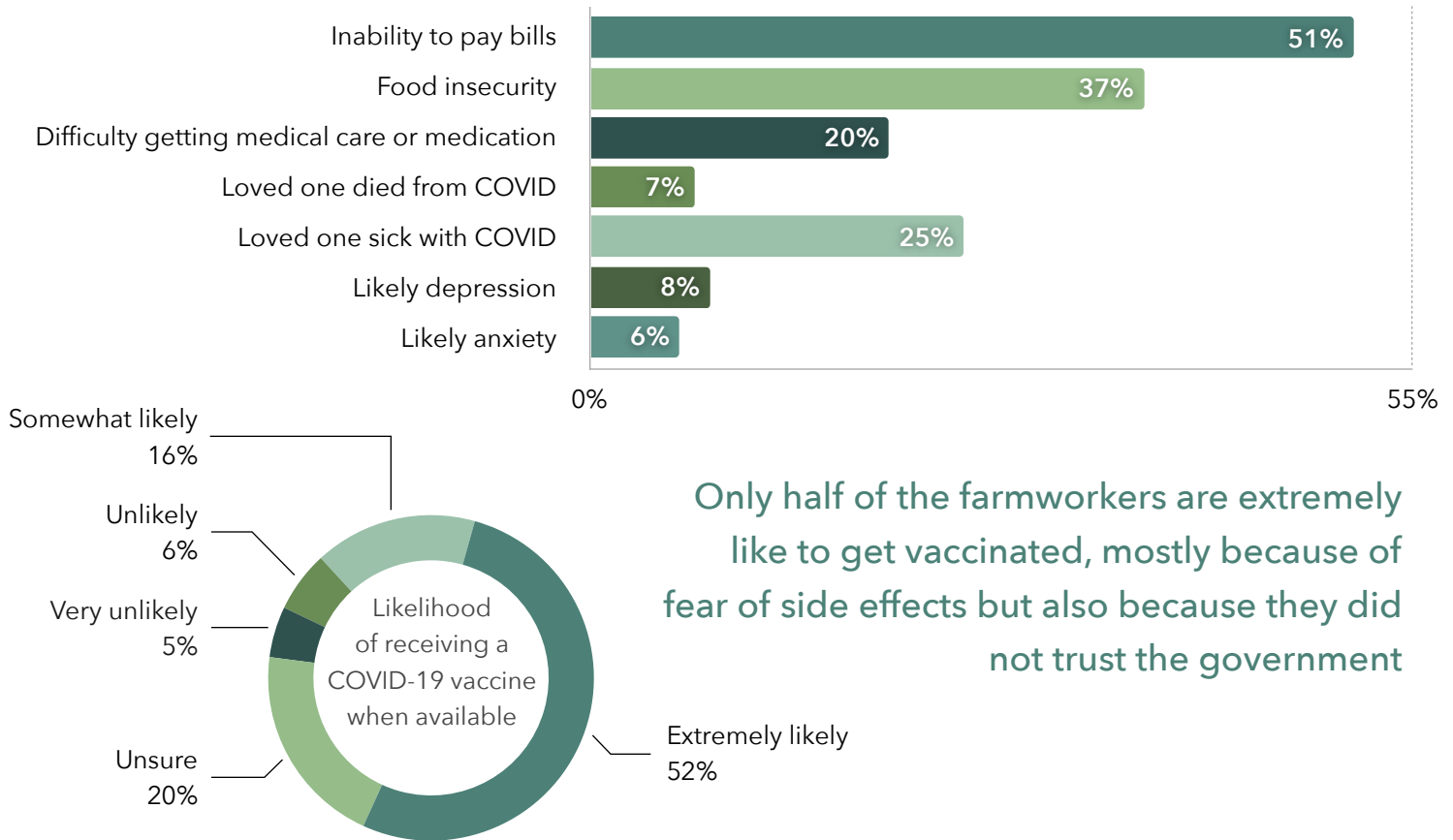
**57%**

had symptoms and went to work

Household and workplace risk factors for having an active SARS-CoV-2 infection (testing PCR positive)



## COVID-19 pandemic has taken a toll on the health and well-being of farmworkers



## POLICY AND ACTION RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Develop and implement a culturally- and linguistically-appropriate education campaign to educate workers and their employers about farmworker benefits and their ability to remain at home awaiting test results or if sick and receive replacement income.
2. Bring rapid PCR testing to clinics, neighborhoods, and fields and immediately conduct culturally- and linguistically-appropriate contact tracing.
3. To provide a support structure that allows for immediate and simple to replacement income and access to other wrap-around services, including on-the-spot income, mental and family health services, housing, and child and food support.
4. To prioritize farmworkers, as essential workers, in rapid testing and vaccination programs in order to protect this population and secure the United States food supply.

All the above actions should be developed and/or supported by respected and trusted sources, such as community-based organizations or clinics.

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