

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

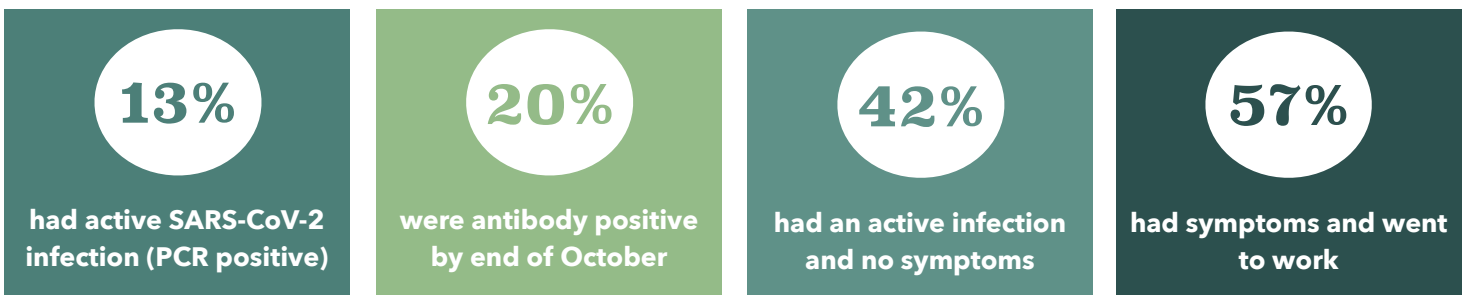
Where?

Salinas Valley, Monterey County

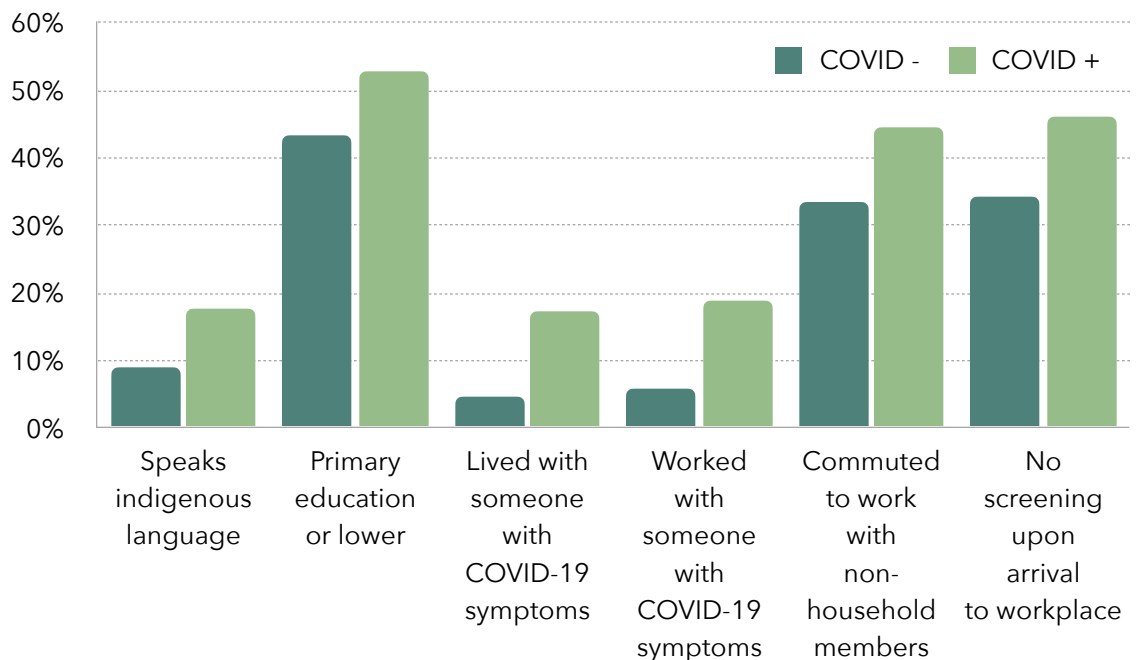
What?

PCR oropharyngeal testing, antibody testing in blood, phone interview

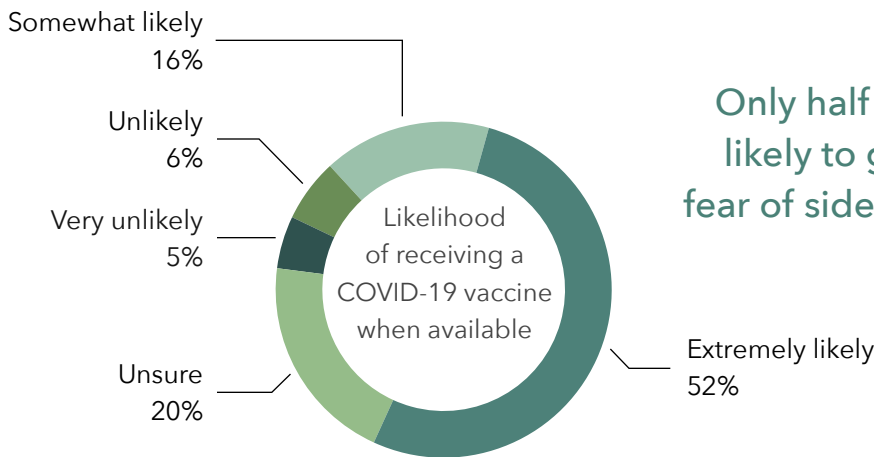
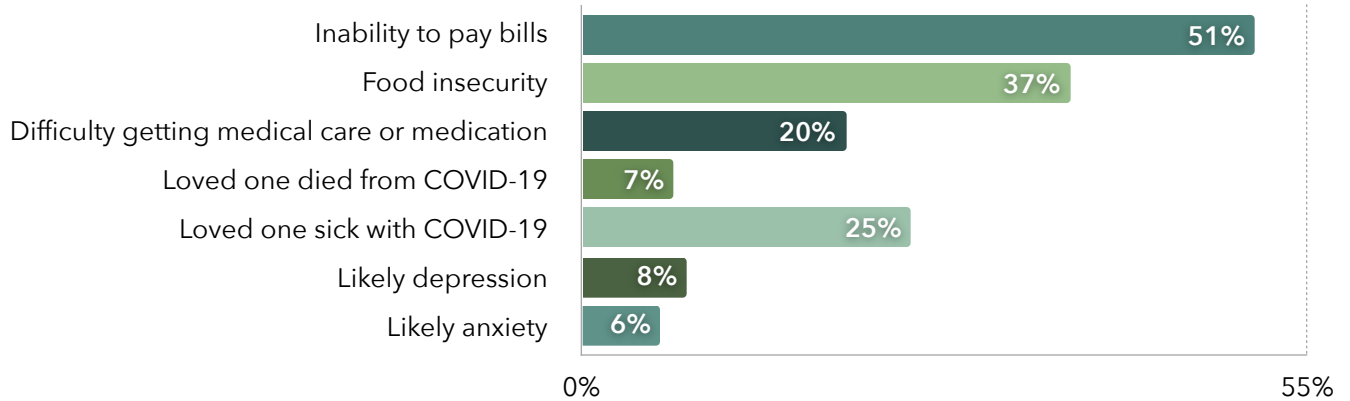
Main study findings



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



Only half of the farmworkers are extremely likely to get vaccinated, mostly because of fear of side effects but also because they did not trust the government

POLICY AND ACTION RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Develop and implement a culturally- and linguistically-appropriate 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 access wrap-around services, including on-the-spot income replacement, mental and family health services, housing, and child and food support.
4. To prioritize farmworkers, as essential workers, in rapid PCR 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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