COVID-19 CONSEQUENCES AMONG HISPANIC AND INDIGENOUS AGRICULTURAL WORKERS IN CALIFORNIA, USA AND MICHOACAN, MEXICO

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TODAY

- FARMWORKER VULNERABILITIES
- IN THE NEWS
- IN RESEARCH
- STUDY
- CLOSE

VULNERABILITIES AMONG AGRICULTURAL WORKERS

- EXCLUDED FROM PROTECTIONS
- HAZARDOUS WORK
- FAMILY CREWS
- LIVING WAGES
- CROWDED LIVING, WORKING, TRANSPORTATION
- LANGUAGE BARRIERS
- Rural isolation
- Quality Housing
- DISCRIMINATION

- DOCUMENTATION STATUS
- HIGH RISK POPULATION (HISPANICS)
- CLEAN AIR, WATER, AND HEALTHY FOOD
- LIMITED ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE AND SERVICES
- CHRONIC DISEASE
- MENTAL HEALTH
- HEALTH LITERACY/BEHAVIORS
- EXPLOITATION
- MIGRATION

REPORTS IN THE NEWS











REPORTS IN RESEARCH



Always Essential, Perpetually Disposable: California Farmworkers and the COVID-19 Pandemic

Policy Brief

February 2021

SUMMARY

California employs an estimated 800,000 farmworkers. Most work seasonal jobs – rarely holding full-time, year-round work. While all essential workers put themselves at risk when they show up for work during the COVID-19 pandemic, farmworkers face additional risks because they lack critical social safety net support afforded to others. A 915 person COVID-19 Farmworker. Study (COFS) statewide survey and 63 indepth interviews illustrate long-standing crises, vulnerabilities, and economic frailities within the food system, heightening insecurity, risk, and health dispartities for farmworkers and their families.

This research brief elevates the health, household, and workplace struggles of COF participants midst the pandemic and reveal uneven distribution of resources, poor enforcement and eroded levels of trust toward government. entities. Findings from both phases of the California COFS study make an urgent appeal: provide immediate direct relief to farmworker. communities and the organizations that have been trustworthy lifelines for years and essential during this pandemic.

POLICY ACTIONS FOR EQUITABLE INCLUSION AND PROTECTION OF FARMWORKERS

Expand and simplify access to income and safety net resources and services that move beyond education and overcome barriers for farmworkers, regardless of documentation status.

Address language barriers by including visual education along with Mexican Indigenous, Asian and non-academic Spanish languages in culturally appropriate literacy levels.

Expand healthcare access and coverage regardless or documentation status.

Expand and simplify access to disaster income and safety net relief for farmworkers, regardless of documentation.

Engage farmworkers and farmworker-serving CBOs to design and implement direct services, workplace safety, education, and outreach that will meet local COVID-19 needs.

Ease the barriers for farmworkers to report COVID-19 related complaints, protect against retaliations, and bolster health and safety enforcement and compliance agencies.

METHODS

COFS Phase One took place between May 19 and July 20, 2020 and conducted 915 surveys with a team of 51 surveyors managed by six community-based organizations

COFS Phase Two conducted 63 in-depth interviews with California farmworkers from August-October, 2020. The Phase Two COFS study in California documents intensified workplace inequalities and economic burdens, household and community-level suffering and stress, and ever more disparate access to healthcare, social and economic support and relief, and testing services that continued to unfold.

915 California Surveys by Region May 2020-July 2020







Article

COVID-19 Pandemic among Latinx Farmworker and Nonfarmworker Families in North Carolina: Knowledge, Risk Perceptions, and Preventive Behaviors

Sara A. Quandt ^{1,*}(0), Natalie J. LaMonto ², Dana C. Mora ³, Jennifer W. Talton ⁴, Paul J. Laurienti ⁵ and Thomas A. Arcury ³





Original Investigation | Public Health

Risk Factors Associated With SARS-CoV-2 Infection Among Farmworkers in Monterey County, California

Ana M. Mora, MD, PhD; Joseph A. Lewnard, PhD; Katherine Kogut, MPH; Stephen A. Rauch, MPH; Samantha Hernandez, BS; Marcus P. Wong, BS/BA; Karen Huen, PhD; Cynthia Chang, MPH; Nicholas P. Jewell, PhD; Nina Holland, PhD; Eva Harris, PhD; Maximiliano Cuevas, MD; Brenda Eskenazi, PhD; for the CHAMACOS-Project-19 Study Team

JOURNAL OF AGROMEDICINE 2021, VOL. 26, NO. 3, 348-351 https://doi.org/10.1080/1059924X.2021.1913272





A Mobile Primary Care Clinic Mitigates an Early COVID-19 Outbreak Among Migrant Farmworkers in Iowa

Claudia Corwina, b, Emily Sinnwellc, and Kennith Culpc

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PILOT STUDY - SUPPORT AND TEAM

FUNDING SUPPORT:

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- THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH (NIOSH) TRAINING GRANT [T42-OH008429].

BINATIONAL TEAM:

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 - KIMBERLY Y. PRADO, PHD, MPH
- California State University Fresho
 - JEANETTE RAMIREZ, BS
- Universidad Michoacan de San Nicolas de Hidalgo
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 - STEPHANIE ANAÍ DÍAZ CHÁVEZ, MS
 - SANDRA MAYTHE RAMÍREZ FLORES, BS
- BINATIONAL COMPARISON*



STUDY FOCUS AND METHODS

• Consequences of covid 19 focus:

- WORKER INPUT
- SOCIAL
- ECONOMIC
- HEALTH
- METHODS:
 - COMMUNITY BASED PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH
 - COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD
 - COMMUNITY MATERIALS
 - QUALITATIVE INTERVIEWS









STUDY SAMPLE

- SAMPLE (SPRING SUMMER 2021)
 - SPANISH AND PURHÉPECHA SPEAKERS
 - CALIFORNIA, USA
 - COUNTIES:
 - Monterey, Madera, Fresno, Tulare
 - MICHOACAN, MORELIA, MEXICO
 - LOCATIONS:
 - APATZINGÁN (TIERRA CALIENTE, MICHOACÁN)
 - EJIDO DE SAN ISIDRO ITZÍCUARO, MUNICIPIO DE MORELIA
 - CHERANÁSTICO, MUNICIPIO DE PARACHO



FINDINGS

RESULTS: DEMOGRAPHICS

		Hispanic (n=20)	Indigenous (n=20)
Women n(%):		9 (45%)	10 (50%)
Age avg(sd):		31 (9)	38 (9)
Civil Status n(%):	Married	8 (40%)	12 (60%)
	Other (single, separated, widow, union)	12 (60%)	8 (40%)
Living with children n(%):		11 (55%)	10 (50%)
Education n(%):	Elementary Eq	6 (30%)	11 (55%)
	Highschool Eq	12 (60%)	8 (40%)
	College Eq	2 (10%)	1 (5%)



RESULTS: OPINIONS

- WIDE RANGE OF COVID-19 KNOWLEDGE
- COVID-19 MISINFORMATION AND DISBELIEF
- COVID-19 INFECTION, ILLNESS, AND DEATH
- DISTRUST IN GOVERNMENT



RESULTS: TESTIMONIALS MICHOACAN WORKERS

"I THINK ITS TRUE BECAUSE MY HUSBAND GOT INFECTED, AND HE COULDN'T SAVE HIMSELF."

-Woman Purhépecha speaker 3

"THEY SAID IT WAS TRUE BUT WHO KNOWS! BUT SINCE THEY SAID MANY PEOPLE WERE DYING FROM COVID WHO KNOWS IF IT WAS BECAUSE OF THAT OR NOT"

-WOMAN PURHÉPECHA SPEAKER 9



RESULTS: TESTIMONIALS CALIFORNIA WORKERS

"ALL OF US WERE SURPRISED AT FIRST, WE THOUGHT IT WASN'T TRUE IT TOOK US BY SURPRISE WE DIDN'T THINK IT WAS ALL PEOPLE THAT IT WASN'T TRUE...BUT FINALLY IT IS TRUE ITS TRUE BECAUSE I SAW MANY PEOPLE DIE. I HAD FRIENDS GET SICK AND I DIDN'T. BUT YES, I HAD FRIENDS THAT GOT SICK AND DIED AND THEY WERE CREMATED."

-MALE SPANISH SPEAKER 3

"MANY SAY THAT THE GOVERNMENT STARTED COVID BUT ONLY GOD KNOWS"

-MALE PURHÉPECHA SPEAKER 19



RESULTS: SOCIAL

- FAMILY STRESS
- CHILDREN'S STRUGGLES
- SEVERING FRIENDSHIP TIES AND ACCESS TO COMMUNITY
- REDUCED CO-WORKER COMRADERY
- COMMUNITY COVID STIGMA



RESULTS: TESTIMONIALS MICHOACAN WORKERS

"IT IS AFFECTING A LOT OF OTHER PEOPLE, THE KIDS THAT CAN'T GO OUT, WE CAN'T GO OUT, NOT EVEN A LITTLE TO RUN. WHY? BECAUSE EVERYTHING IS CLOSED BECAUSE OF THE PANDEMIC"

-Woman Purhépecha speaker 4

"I COULDN'T GO OUT ANYWHERE ... FIRST TO NOT SPREAD THE VIRUS AND, THEY DON'T ALLOW IT ... I ALSO FEEL LIKE IT'S AFFECTING MY KIDS IN SCHOOL ... THEY ARE ONLY VIRTUAL CLASSES, I THINK THE CURRICULUM IS NOT GOOD, AND NOW EVERYTHING IS OVER TELEPHONE I THINK THIS IS WORSE"

-MALE SPANISH SPEAKER 4



RESULTS: TESTIMONIALS CALIFORNIA WORKERS

"WE COULDN'T EAT TOGETHER ANYMORE AT WORK, THEY SEPARATED US"
-WOMAN PURHÉPECHA SPEAKER 4

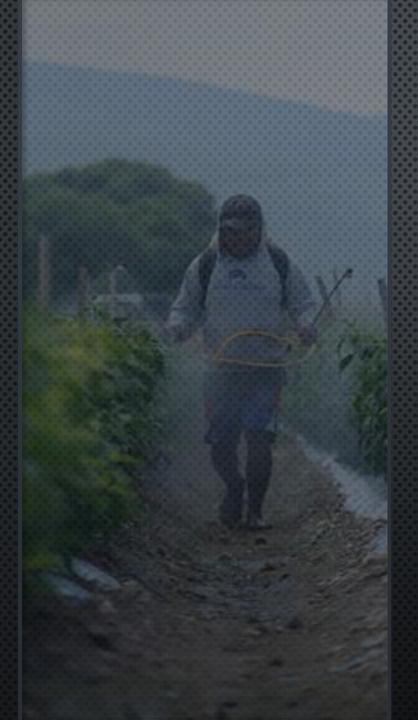
"A VERY STRONG CHANGE ... WE ISOLATE, WE DON'T GO OUT, NOT EVEN TO THE PARK, OR TO VISIT FAMILY, WE ARE ISOLATED FROM OUR FAMILIES ... WE CALL OR VIDEO CALL BUT ITS NOT LIKE BEFORE ... AND THEY AREN'T LETTING THE KIDS GO TO SCHOOL ... THEY STUDY AT HOME ... AND WE ARE SHUT IN DOORS ALL THE TIME ... WE ONLY GO OUT FOR BASIC NEEDS AND WORK ... ITS BEEN A DRASTIC CHANGE" (GREAT SADNESS IN HER VOICE)..." YES BECAUSE WE CAN'T HAVE REUNIONS, BEFORE WE WOULD HAVE REUNIONS ON THE ONLY DAY WE HAD OFF, ON SUNDAY WE WOULD SPEND TIME WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY AND NOW THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE"

-Woman Spanish speaker 8



RESULTS: ECONOMIC

- No work no food
- REDUCED INCOME
- HIDDEN COVID-19
- EFFORTS TO KEEP INDUSTRY GOING



RESULTS: TESTIMONIALS MICHOACAN WORKERS

"THEY WOULD GIVE ME BEANS, RICE ... BECAUSE THERE WAS NO WORK ... MY MONEY WASN'T ENOUGH, FAMILY HAD TO HELP ME"
-WOMAN PURHÉPECHA SPEAKER 9

"YES, THE WORK REDUCED ... I AM NOT GETTING THE SAME JOBS THAT I USED TO GET BEFORE THE PANDEMIC, THAT HAS GONE DOWN SIGNIFICANTLY"

-MALE SPANISH SPEAKER 4



RESULTS: TESTIMONIALS CALIFORNIA WORKERS

"RENT WENT UP \$100 WHEN I ONLY GOT A \$1 INCREASE ... HOW IS THAT GOING TO COVER MY BILLS, WATER, LIGHT, RENT? WHICH NONE OF THAT WAITS EVEN IF ILLNESS COMES ... I HEARD THERE WAS RENT HELP AND I WANTED TO ASK FOR A LITTLE BIT OF HELP BUT I ONLY HAVE DOCUMENTS FROM MEXICO SO BECAUSE OF THAT I CAN'T ASK FOR HELP BUT I WILL FIND A WAY SOMEHOW"

-Man worker Purhépecha speaker 2

"I TOOK THAT RISK TO GO TO WORK BECAUSE I NEED TO PAY MY BILLS AND I MUST PROVIDE FOR MY BOY. IT WAS A TOUGH DECISION ... I DON'T HAVE ANY OTHER OPTIONS LIKE 'OH I'LL GET DISABILITY' BECAUSE SINCE THE WORK IS TEMPORARY, THEY DON'T EVEN OFFER HEALTH INSURANCE. SOME CAN DO THAT, BUT I DON'T HAVE THAT OPTION. I HAD TO TAKE THE RISK AND WORK AND TRY TO TAKE PRECAUTIONS TO NOT BRING HOME THE VIRUS"

-Woman worker Spanish speaker 2

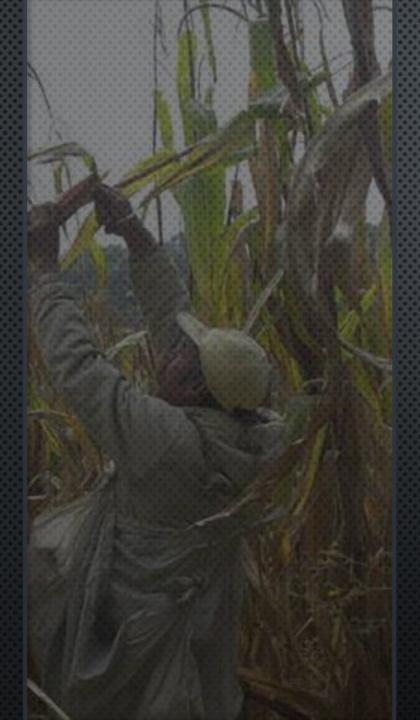
"WE USED GEL AND MASKS ... BUT SOME PEOPLE DIDN'T WEAR MASKS, THE LEADERSHIP ALSO WHEN THEY ARE SUPPOSED TO BE THE PROFESSIONALS, THERE WASN'T A LAW FOR EVERYONE TO USE MASKS ... BUT I USED MINE"

-Man Purhépecha speaker 11



RESULTS: HEALTH

- CHRONIC DISEASE
- OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURES
- MENTAL HEALTH
- COVID-19 INFECTION
- COVID 19 TESTING, VACCINE, AND HOSPITAL HESITANCY



RESULTS: TESTIMONIALS MICHOACAN WORKERS

"YES, ANXIETY BECAUSE CASES STARTED TO APPEAR. CASES AMONG PEOPLE CLOSE TO ME, THAT UNFORTUNATELY LOST THEIR LIVES BECAUSE OF COVID, I WAS SCARED, I DOUBLED THE SAFETY MEASURES I WAS TAKING"

-MALE SPANISH SPEAKER 3

"No I haven't gotten the vaccine, I have doubts about it because my co-workers that got vaccinated say a lot of things that they felt and it scares me, I am just going to protect myself"

-MALE PURHÉPECHA SPEAKER 6



RESULTS: TESTIMONIALS CALIFORNIA WORKERS

"I WENT TO A FOUNDATION TO HELP GET THE VACCINE, THEY ARE ALSO OFFERING IT AT MY WORK, BUT SOME DON'T WANT IT BECAUSE THEY SAY YOU DIE FASTER"

-Woman Spanish speaker

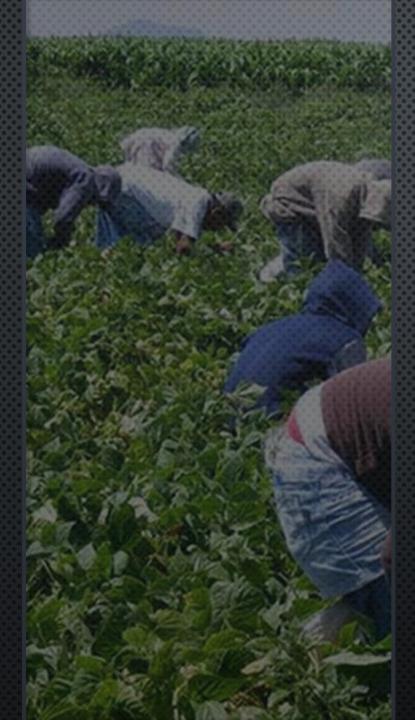
"YES, I COULDN'T SLEEP, AND I HAD BODY PAINS AND THE DOCTOR TOLD ME I HAD DEPRESSION ... I HAD SUICIDAL THOUGHTS ... IT WAS WHEN I GOT COVID I FELT LIKE I WAS NOTHING AND LIKE I DIDN'T WANT TO EXIST ANYMORE LIKE I WANTED TO DIE ALREADY FOR LIKE TEN DAYS"

-WOMAN PURHÉPECHA SPEAKER 8



RESULTS: LAST WORDS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- GREATEST CONCERNS
- SOURCES OF STRENGTH AND MOTIVATION
- RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE WORKPLACE, LEADERSHIP, AND THE BOSS



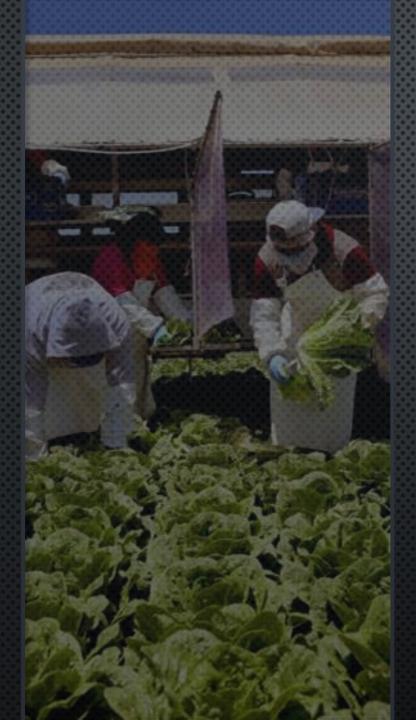
RESULTS: TESTIMONIALS MICHOACAN WORKERS

"PLEASE USE TWO CARS, SO THAT WE DON'T ARRIVE ALL ON TOP OF EACH OTHER, BECAUSE WE ARE IN THE CAR CROWDED, ALL TOGETHER"

-WOMAN SPANISH SPEAKER 4

"When your sick don't go to work, to not get others sick, to protect the people and give the sick their days off so that they can recover"

-MALE PURHÉPECHA SPEAKER 8



RESULTS: TESTIMONIALS CALIFORNIA WORKERS

"I WOULD WANT MOR THAN ANYTHING FOR EVERYONE TO GET THE VACCINE SO EVERYONE CAN FEEL SAFE ... ALSO I SEE SOMETIMES WHEN WE UNLOAD THE FRUIT, THEY HAVE US IN CROWDS THEY SHOULD STOP US AND SEPARATE US FOR DISTANCE"

- Man Purhépecha speaker 11

"We need more resources for those who do not speak Spanish, that don't speak it so much, or programs that support them more than anything information"

- WOMAN SPANISH SPEAKER 8

NEXT STEPS

- COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD REVIEW
- POLICY BRIEF
- Publications
- COMMUNITY MATERIALS

COMMUNITY PRESENCE CALIFORNIA















The COVID-19 Vaccine: What You Should Know In Purépecha



The COVID-19 Vaccine: What Are the Side Effects? In Purépecha



The COVID-19 Vaccine: What Happens When You Get It?



The COVID-19 Vaccine:
The Day of Your
Appointment

COMMUNITY PRESENCE MICHOACAN









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THANK YOU

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