

# Food Systems Resiliency Spotlight Series Webinar #9

**Please review the details about how everything will work today until we begin at 10:00 AM.**

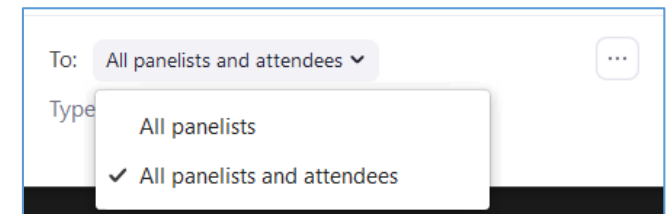
- This event will be recorded for educational or promotional use by the University of California.
- You will be muted throughout to prevent background noise.
- Use the “Chat” for non-question conversations or comments.** Be sure to change the “To” if needed to ensure your Chat is sent to those who you want to send it to.

## Options:

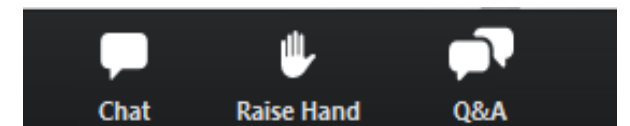
*“All Panelists”* if want to send a Chat only to the speakers

*“All Panelists and Attendees”* for everyone to see your Chat message

- Please post your questions** in the **“Q&A.”** Questions will be addressed at the end of the program.



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# Food Systems Resiliency Webinar Series

UC ANR Strategic Initiatives  
joint effort to **reimagine** our  
food system



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# Food Systems Resiliency Series objectives:

Tour different parts of the Food System to:

- Improve knowledge and understanding
- Identify and share available existing electronic information (resource kits)
- Identify information gaps

Food Systems Resiliency Webinar Series #10

# Reducing Food Costs and Improving Sustainability

November 24  
10 to 11 am



**Ildi Carlisle-Cummins**  
Executive Director, California Institute  
for Rural Studies

**Nayamin Martinez**

Executive Director, Central California  
Environmental Justice Network



**Susana Matias**

Assistant Cooperative Extension Specialist,  
UC Berkeley

**Erik Nicholson**

Founding Partner, Pandion Strategy





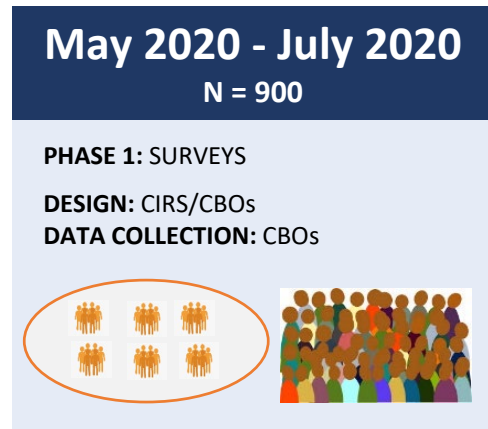


**COVID-19**

**FARMWORKER STUDY**

**[covid19farmworkerstudy.org](https://covid19farmworkerstudy.org)**

# COFS IN CALIFORNIA: Two Phase Study & Data Briefs

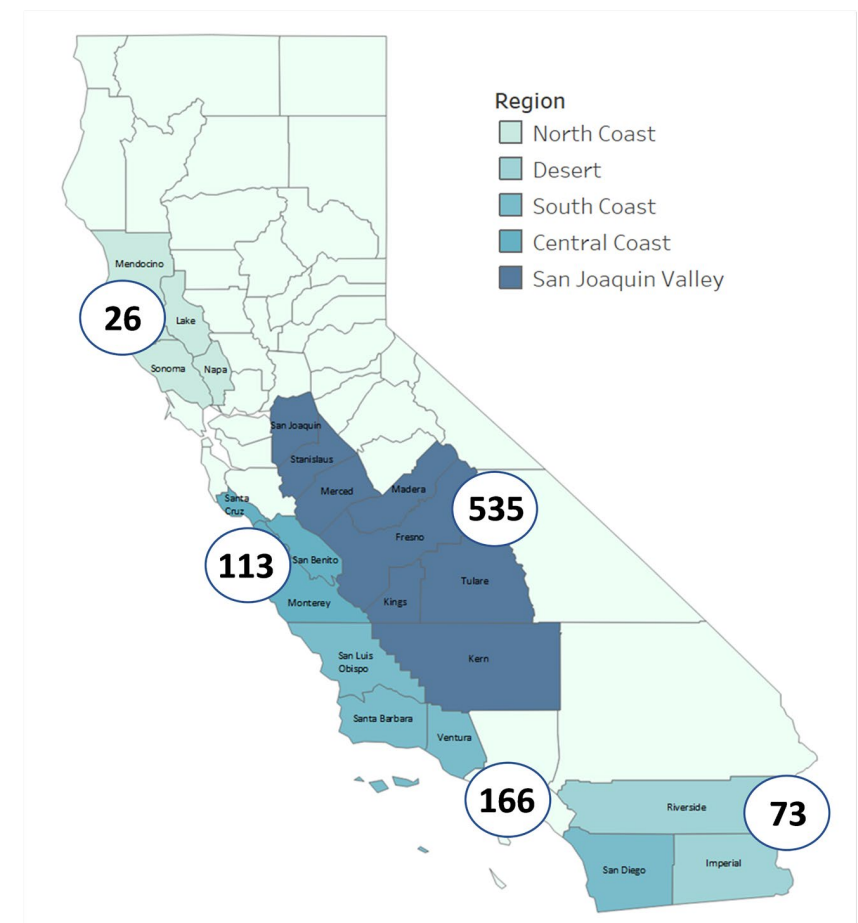


- Data for Action**
- **Preliminary Data Brief (July)**
  - **Survey Methods Brief (August)**
  - **CBO Educational & Outreach tools (November)**
  - **Tri-state analysis early 2021**
  - **Phase Two Data on Social, Economic and Mental Health Effects of COVID-19 on Farmworkers available early 2021**



# California Survey Completed 7/21/2020: 915 Surveys

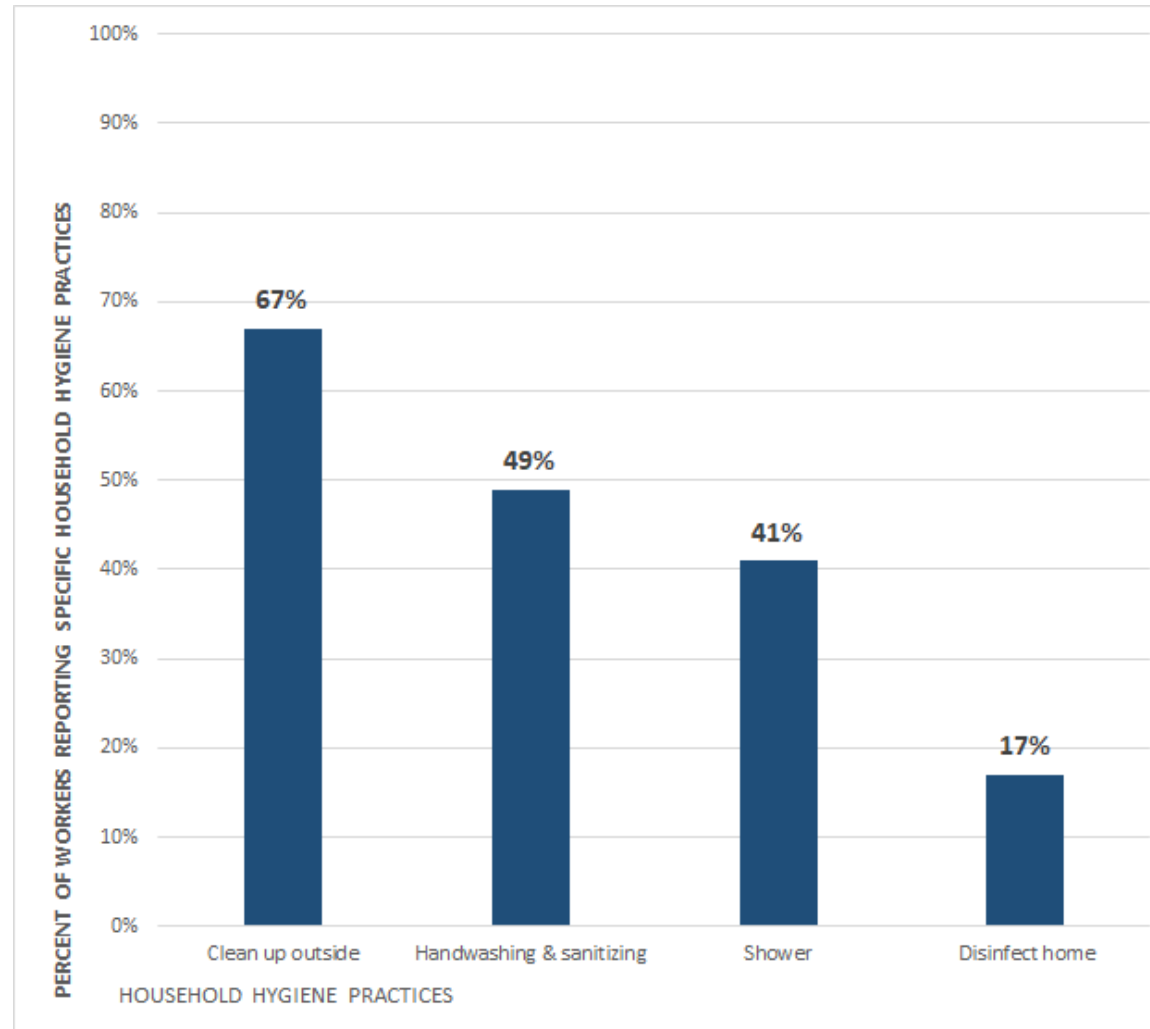
## California Partners:





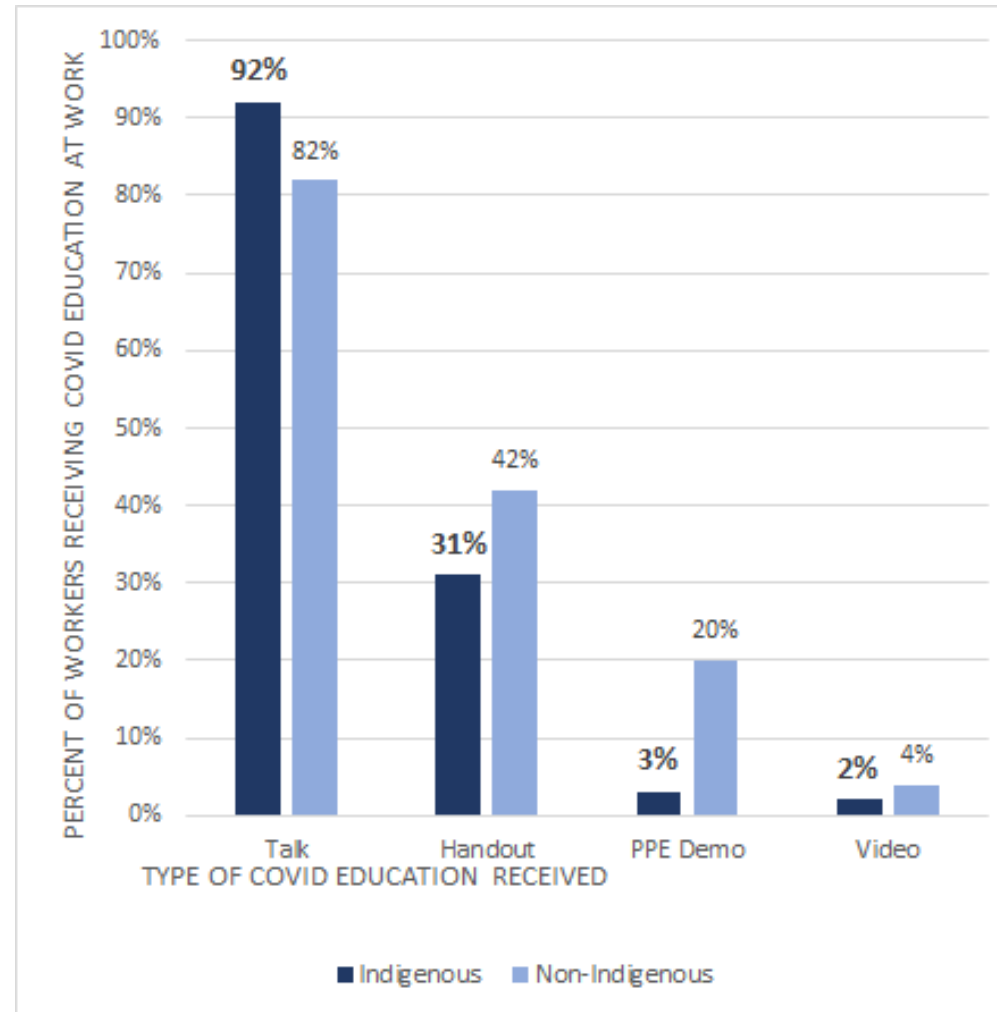
**Provide essential farmworkers with support and services beyond education to overcome barriers they face.**

**DATA: Nearly all workers (90%) were taking precautions to protect their families when they arrived home from work.** Details of those behaviors are below. We also found that workers with children in the household reported higher rates of household hygiene practices than those without children.



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

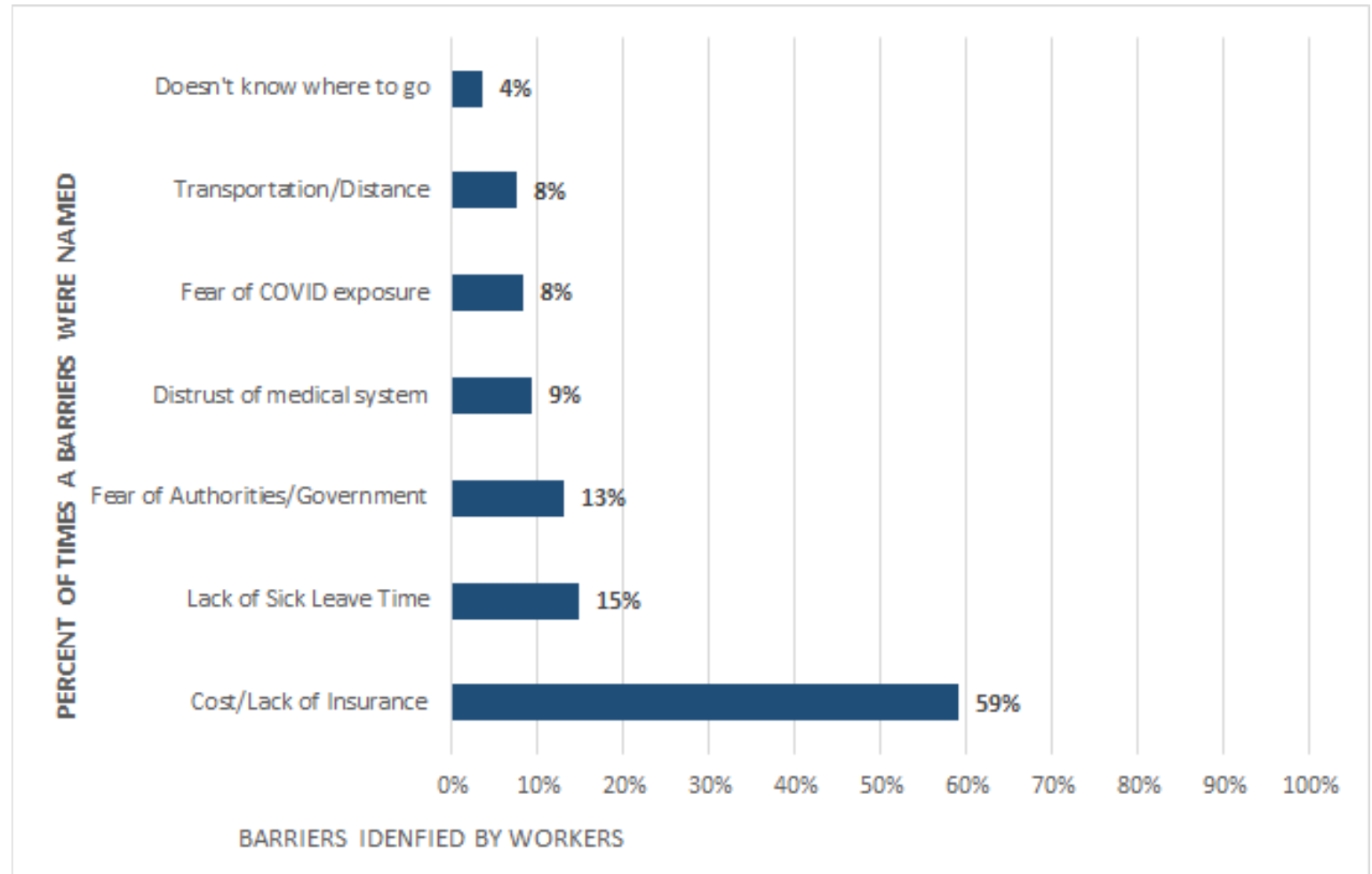
**DATA:** Among workers who received COVID training at their worksite, 8 in 10 received a talk, 4 in 10 received a handout, fewer than 1 in 5 received a PPE demonstration. **Despite the high numbers of indigenous speaking workers in CA and in our survey, indigenous workers were less likely to receive PPE demonstration or a training video.**



**DATA:** CBDIO serves indigenous communities and completed 36% of all surveys. **16% of of these participants preferred completing the survey in their native indigenous languages.** Throughout the survey we identified disparities between indigenous and non-indigenous speakers.

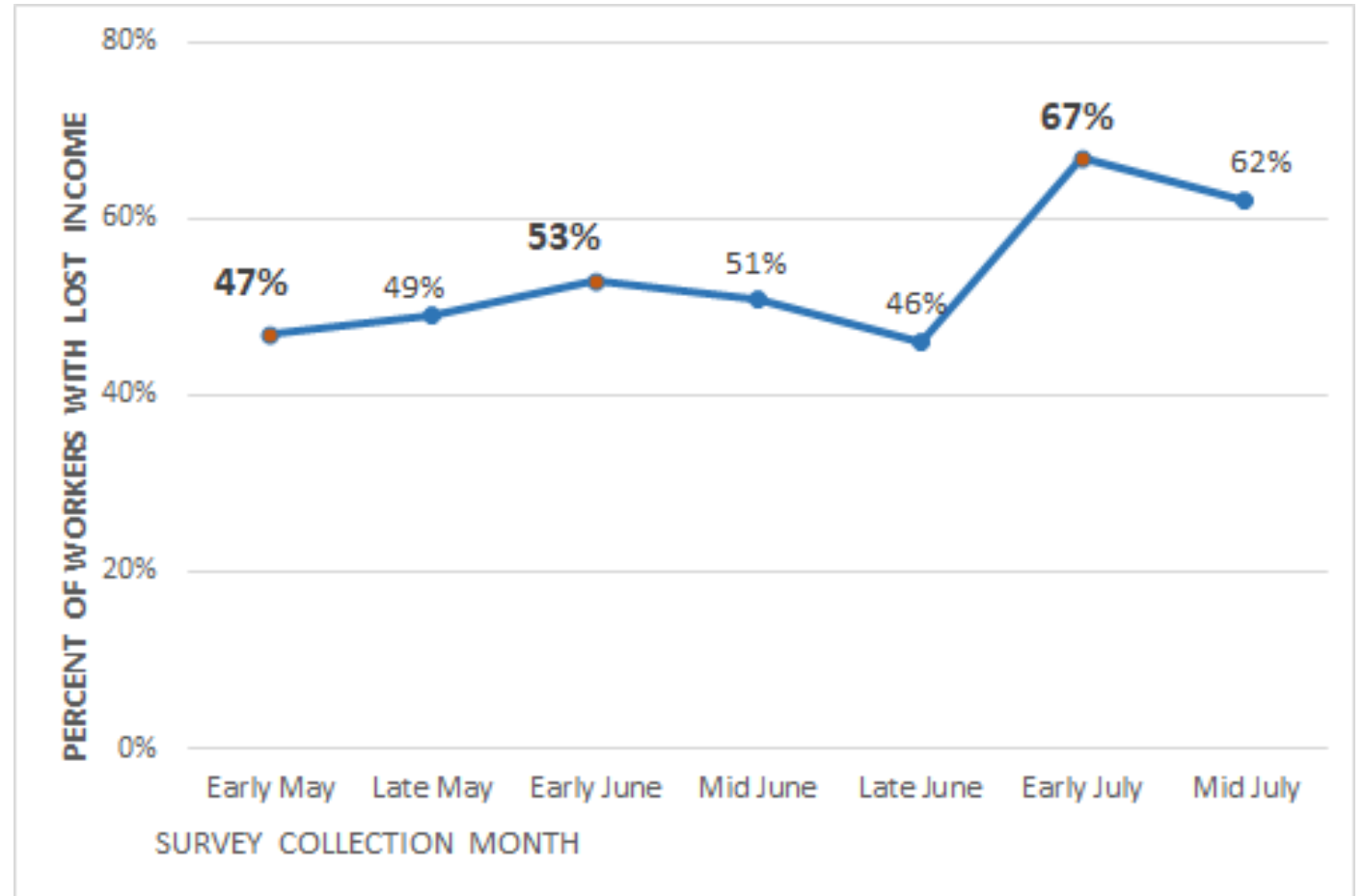
Address barriers through expanding healthcare access and coverage regardless of documentation status.

**DATA: More than half (59%) of all workers reported a lack of insurance/costs as a barrier to healthcare access**, followed by a lack of sick leave (15%), fear of authorities/government (13%) and distrust of the medical system (9%). **The majority of these barriers represent long standing barriers un-related to COVID-19** which may be exacerbated by COVID.



Reduce losses for workers by helping farmers and growers adapt their food supply for times of crisis so that people work and food is available.

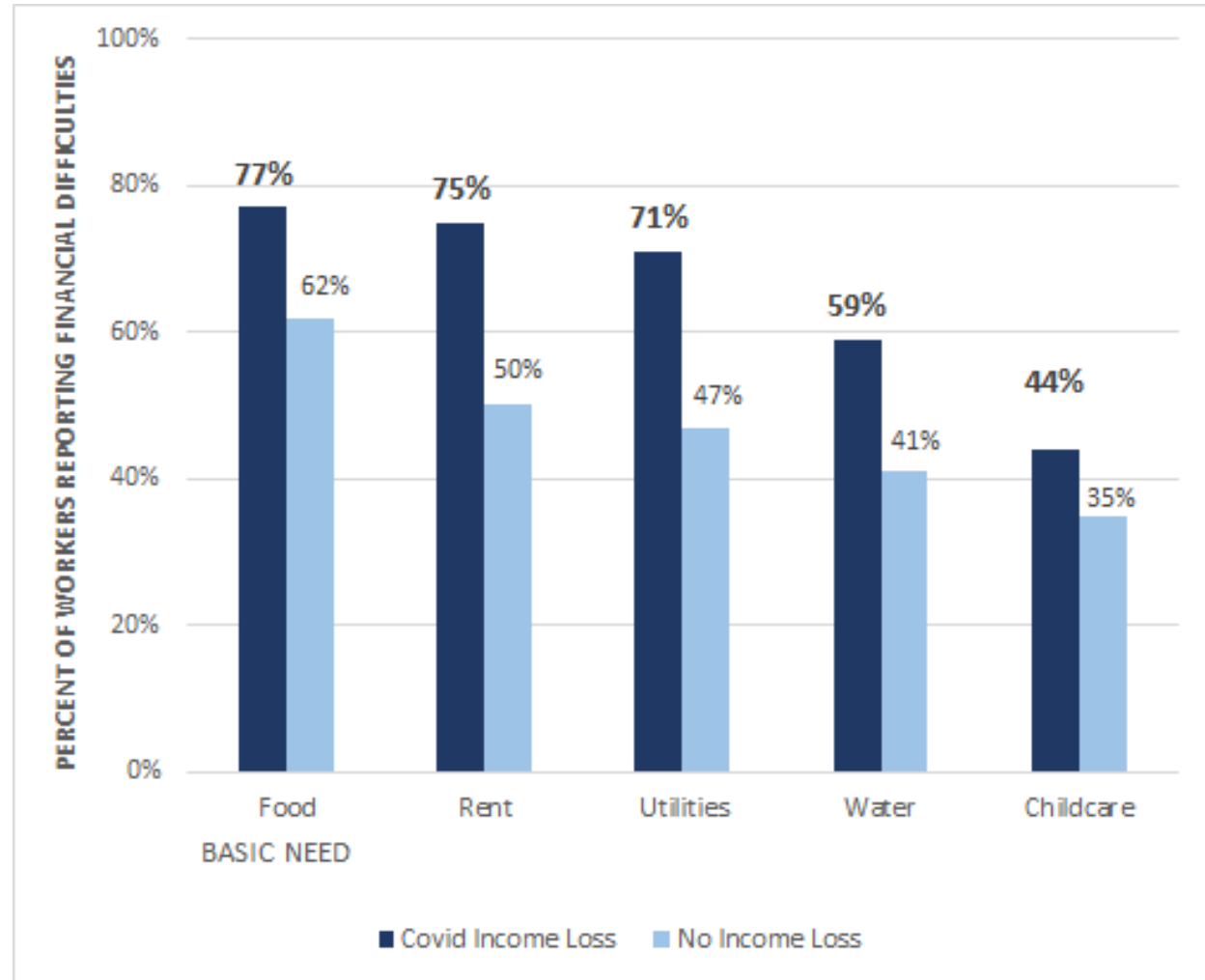
**DATA:** Slightly more than half (52%) of all farmworkers reported decreased work time and income losses. **The three month survey period displayed an increasing trend of lost income.**





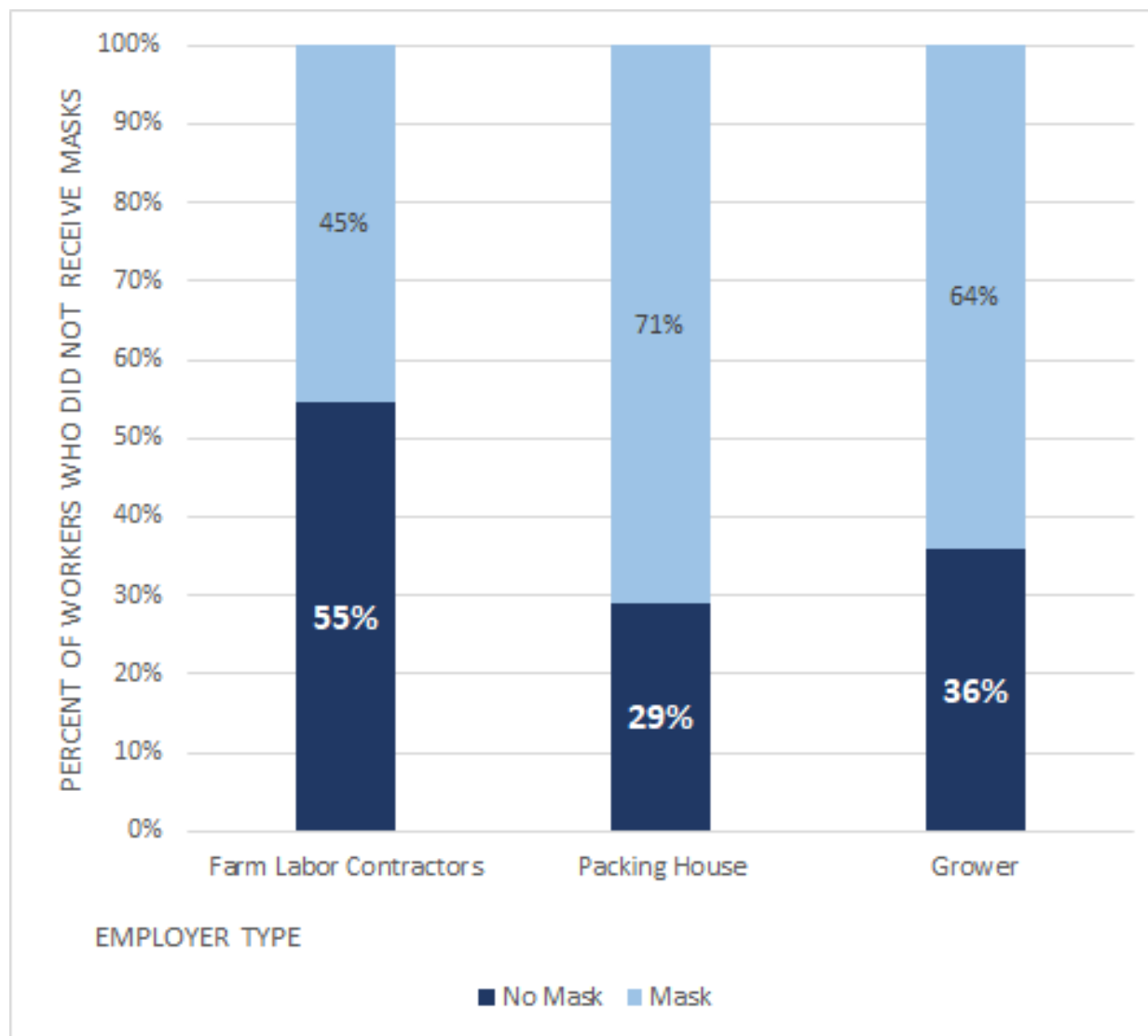
Expand income and safety net support for farmworkers, regardless of documentation status and simplify access to support services.

**DATA:** Because of the income losses, **workers who reported lost income, were more likely to report excess burdens than those who did not experience income losses.** Higher rates of financial burdens were also reported among workers who had children.



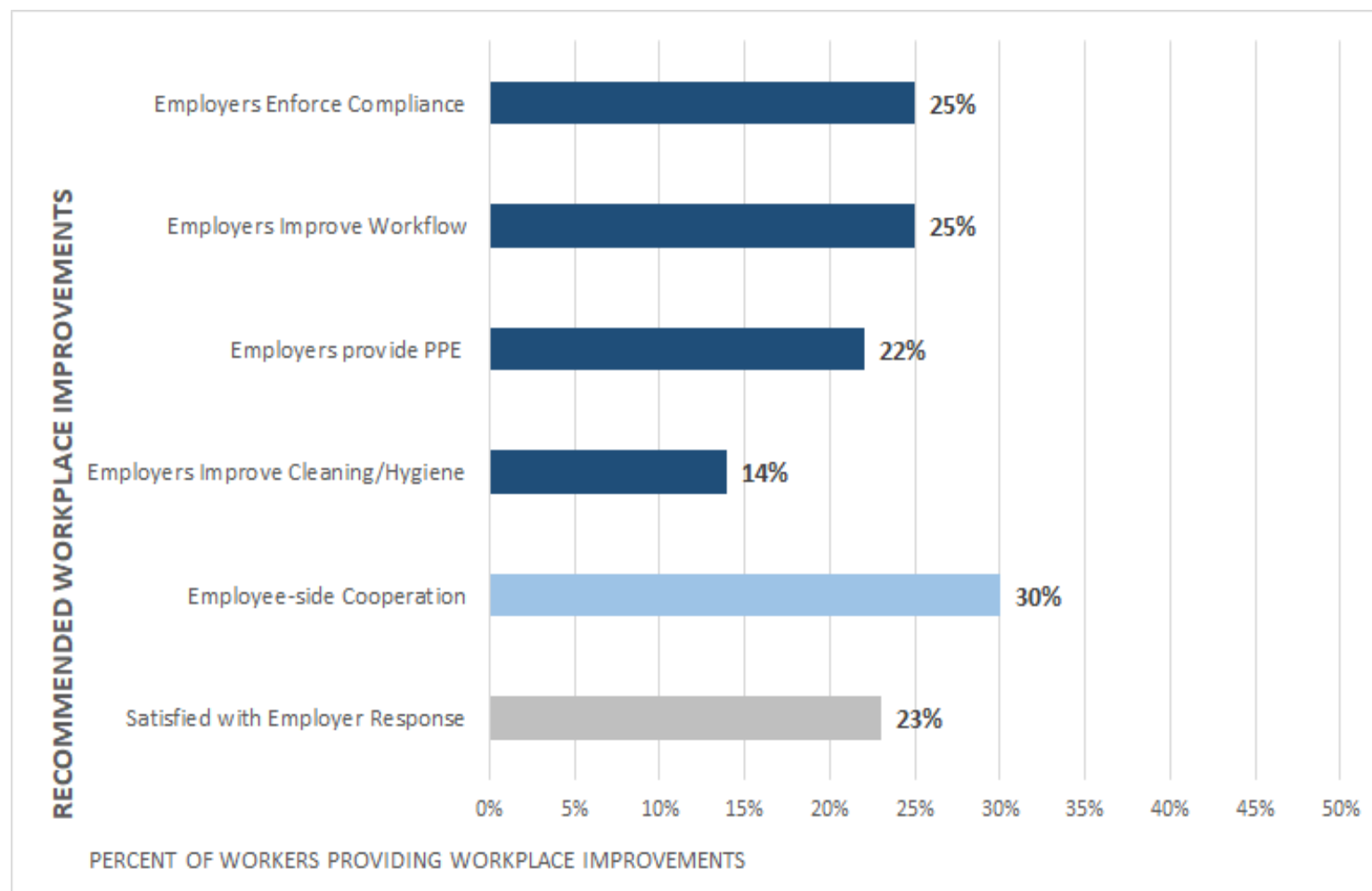
Engage farmworkers and farmworker serving CBOs to design and implement workplace safety education and outreach that will meet local needs.

**DATA:** 54% of workers received a mask from their employer. Mask provision varied by employer type and suggest that education and engagement needs to be tailored to include workplace conditions of growers, packing houses and farm labor contractors.



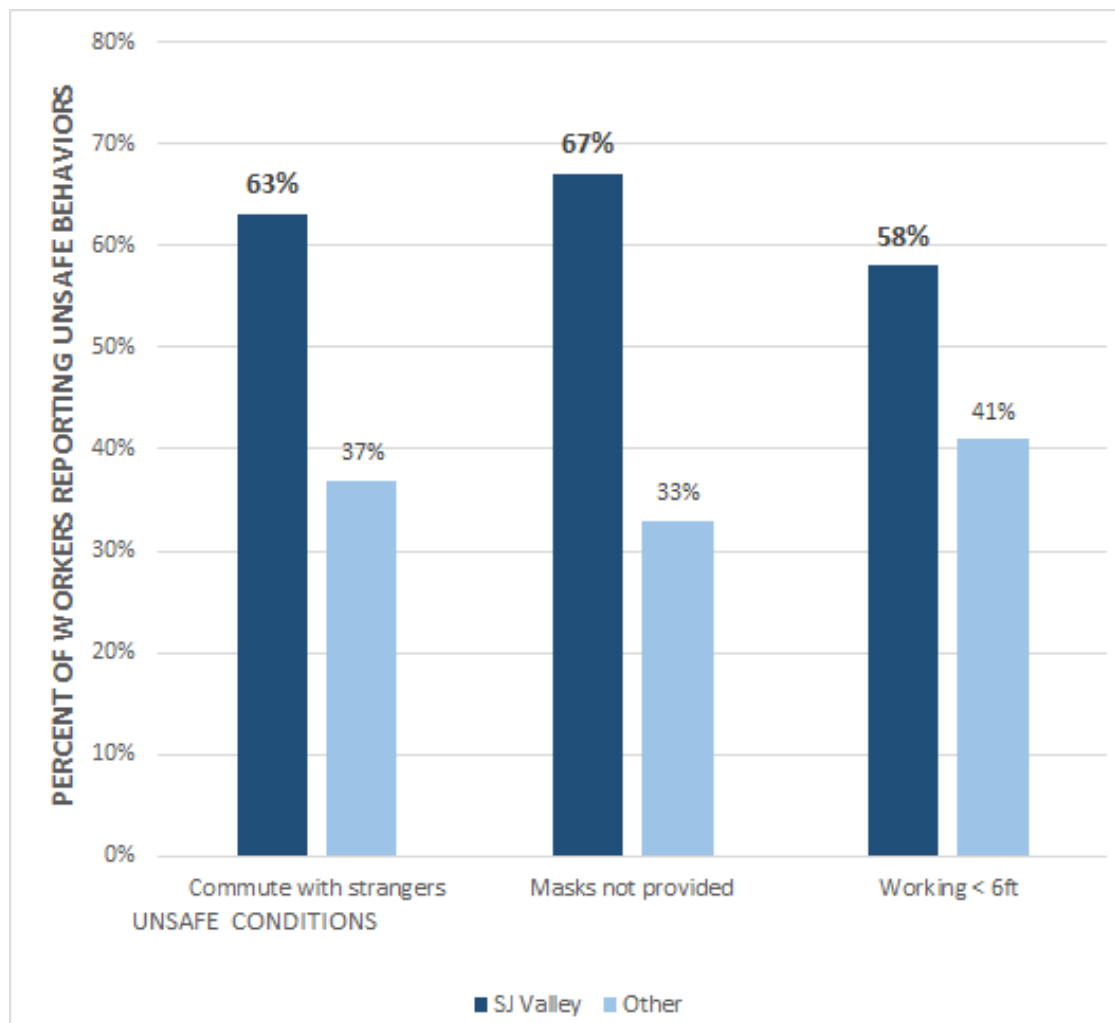
**Engage farmworkers and farmworker serving CBOs to design and implement workplace safety education and outreach that will meet local needs.**

**DATA:** Among farmworkers, **30% noted a need for employee-side cooperation and buy-in**, 23% were satisfied with employer responses. However, the remaining workers noted many opportunities to improve COVID-19 prevention at the worksite.



Engage farmworkers and farmworker serving CBOs to design and implement workplace safety education and outreach that will meet local needs.

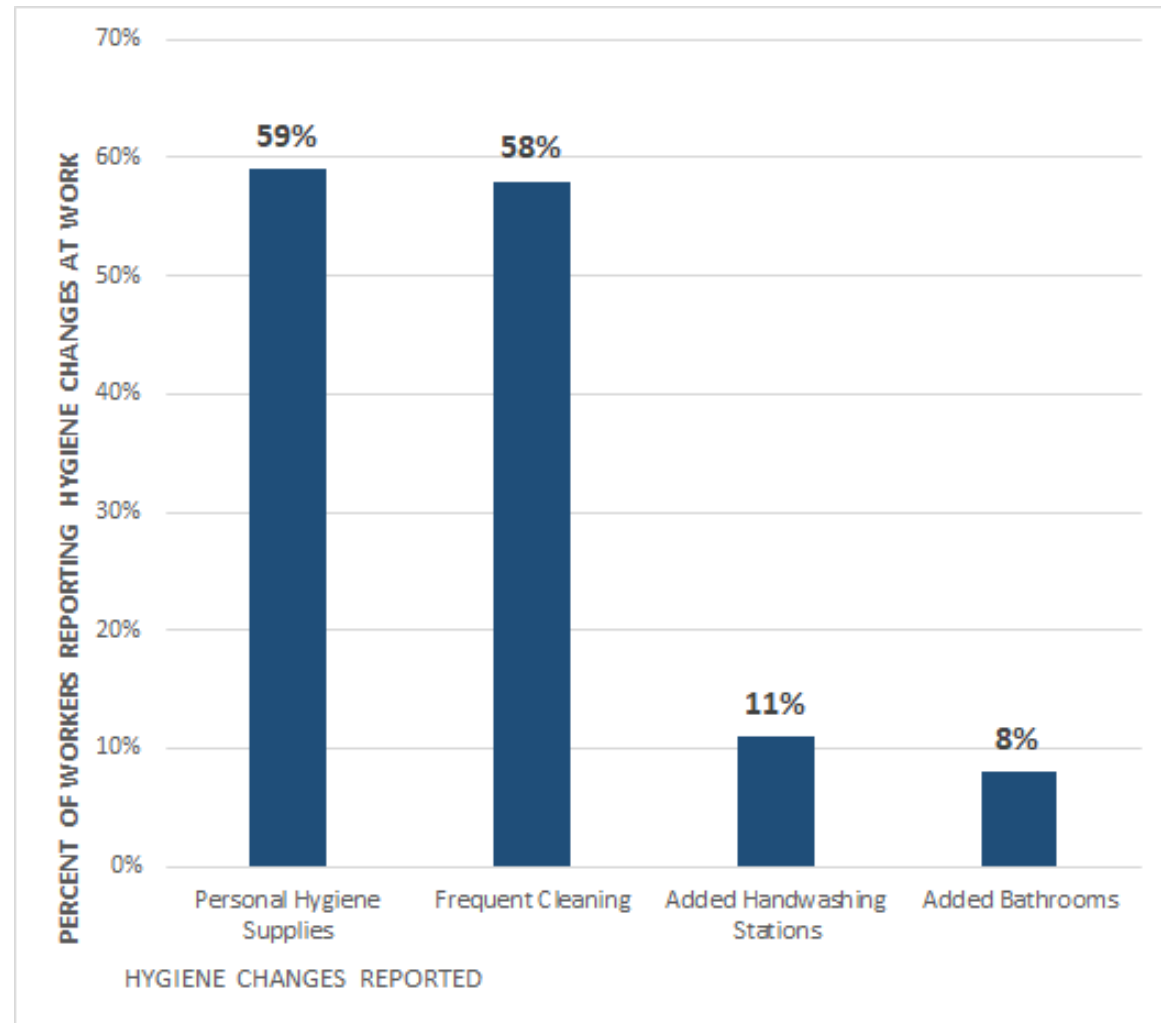
**DATA:** 51% of workers received masks from their employers; 48% of workers traveled with strangers, and 21% were asked to work physically close within 6 feet. We saw important differences by regions. **Workers from the San Joaquin Valley were more likely to experience unsafe workplace and commuting practices than workers from all other regions.**





Ease the barriers for farmworkers to report workplace-related complaints, protect against retaliation, and enforce safety measures at worksites.

**DATA:** More than half (58%) of farmworkers reported changes in hygiene at worksites. But most of these changes were due to cleaning and provision of supplies. Less than 10% of workers reported additional bathrooms.



A wide-angle photograph of a large agricultural field, likely a nursery or seedling production area. The field is filled with rows of young plants, primarily purple and green in color, planted in neat, parallel lines. The plants are growing in dark, possibly plastic-covered, soil. In the background, there are several large, white, arched structures, likely greenhouses or polytunnels, and a line of trees. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. The overall scene is bright and well-lit, suggesting a clear day.

**Contact: [icarlisle-cummins@cirsinc.org](mailto:icarlisle-cummins@cirsinc.org)**

# In the middle of two pandemics

## COVID-19 & chronic disease in farmworkers

Susana Matias, PhD  
Cooperative Extension Specialist

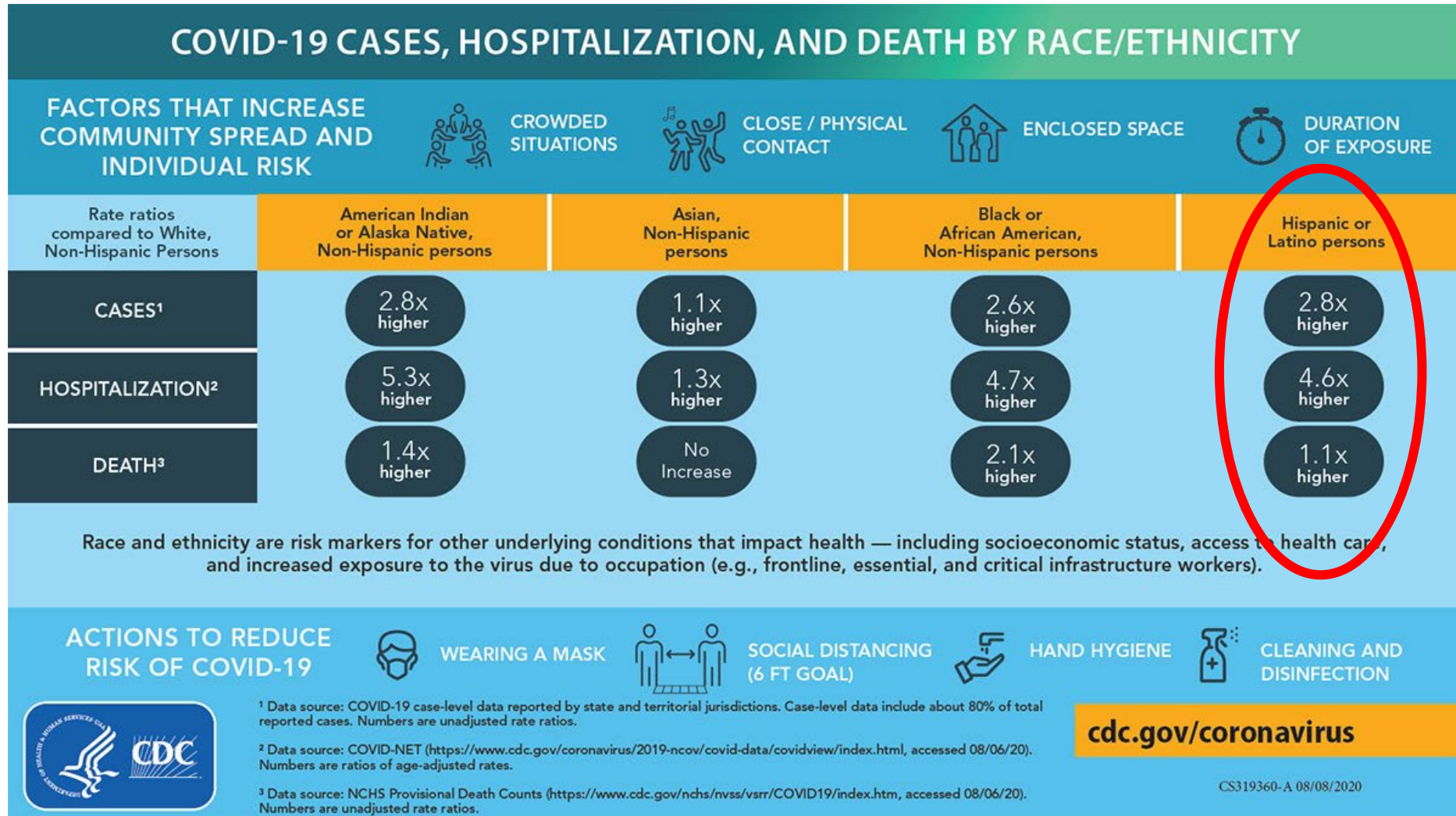
November 10, 2020



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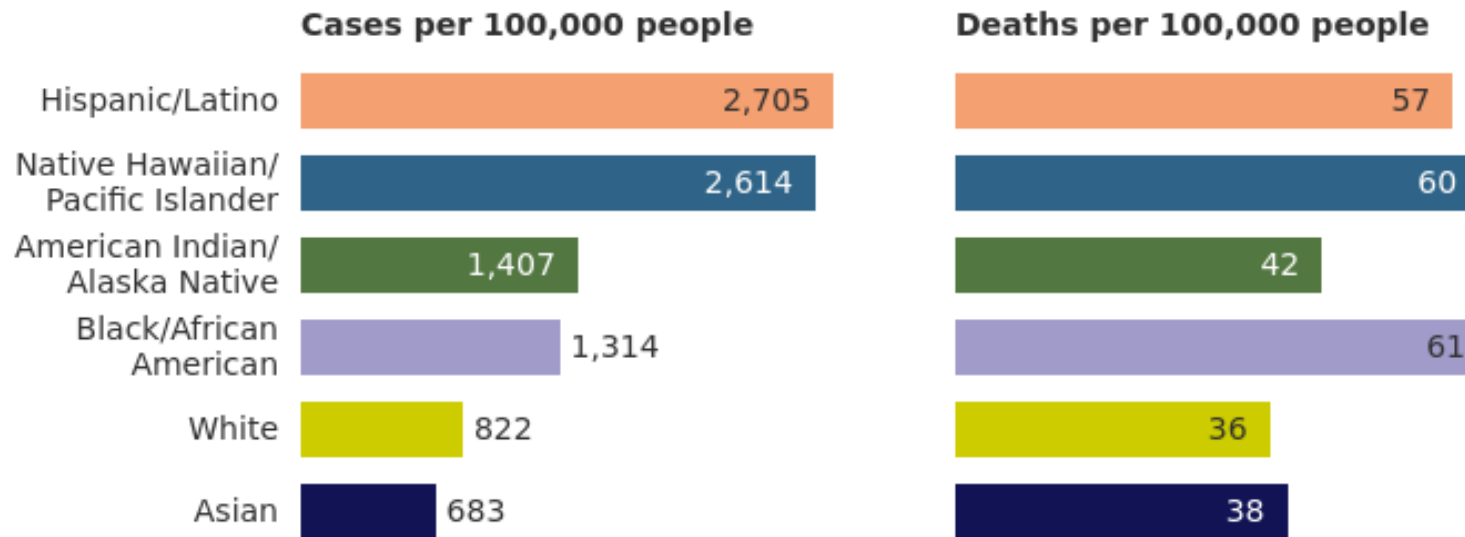
# COVID-19 CASES, HOSPITALIZATION AND DEATHS BY RACE/ETHNICITY





# COVID-19 CASES AND DEATHS BY RACE/ETHNICITY

In **California**, through November 9, Hispanic/Latino people were most likely to have contracted COVID-19. Black/African American people were most likely to have died.



**Notes:** California has reported race and ethnicity data for 71% of cases and 99% of deaths. Graphic only includes demographic groups reported by the state. Race categories are mutually exclusive and defined as not Hispanic or Latino.



# COVID-19 in the farmworker population

- Purdue University estimates that more than 145,000 agricultural workers have tested positive for COVID-19 nationwide
- California:
  - Merced County: at least 392 cases and at least 8 deaths in a poultry farm
  - Ventura County: 274 cases in a berry farm and avocado and citrus orchards
  - Santa Barbara County: a total of 1,180 agricultural workers tested positive
  - Monterey county: agricultural workers were more than **three times likely to become infected** by the virus
  - Kern County: 150 cases in a pistachio farm in Wasco, and 65 of their family members tested positive
  - Solano County: at least 60 agricultural workers who work in Sonoma and Napa vineyards have tested positive
  - Sonoma County: 12 outbreaks on farms in the county, resulted in 347 cases
  - San Joaquin County: 102 workers have tested positive for the virus
  - Fresno County: a 39-year-old farmworker from Orange Cove died



Photo credit: Hector Amezcua, UC Davis

# The role of chronic medical conditions

- Pre-existent chronic diseases increase vulnerability to becoming severely ill
  - ***Obesity***
  - Heart conditions
  - Diabetes
  - Cancer



Carolyn Cole / Los Angeles Times



# The role of chronic medical conditions

- Comorbidity risks are increased
- Susceptibility may be increased
- 78% in ICU have one condition
- 94% deaths have one condition

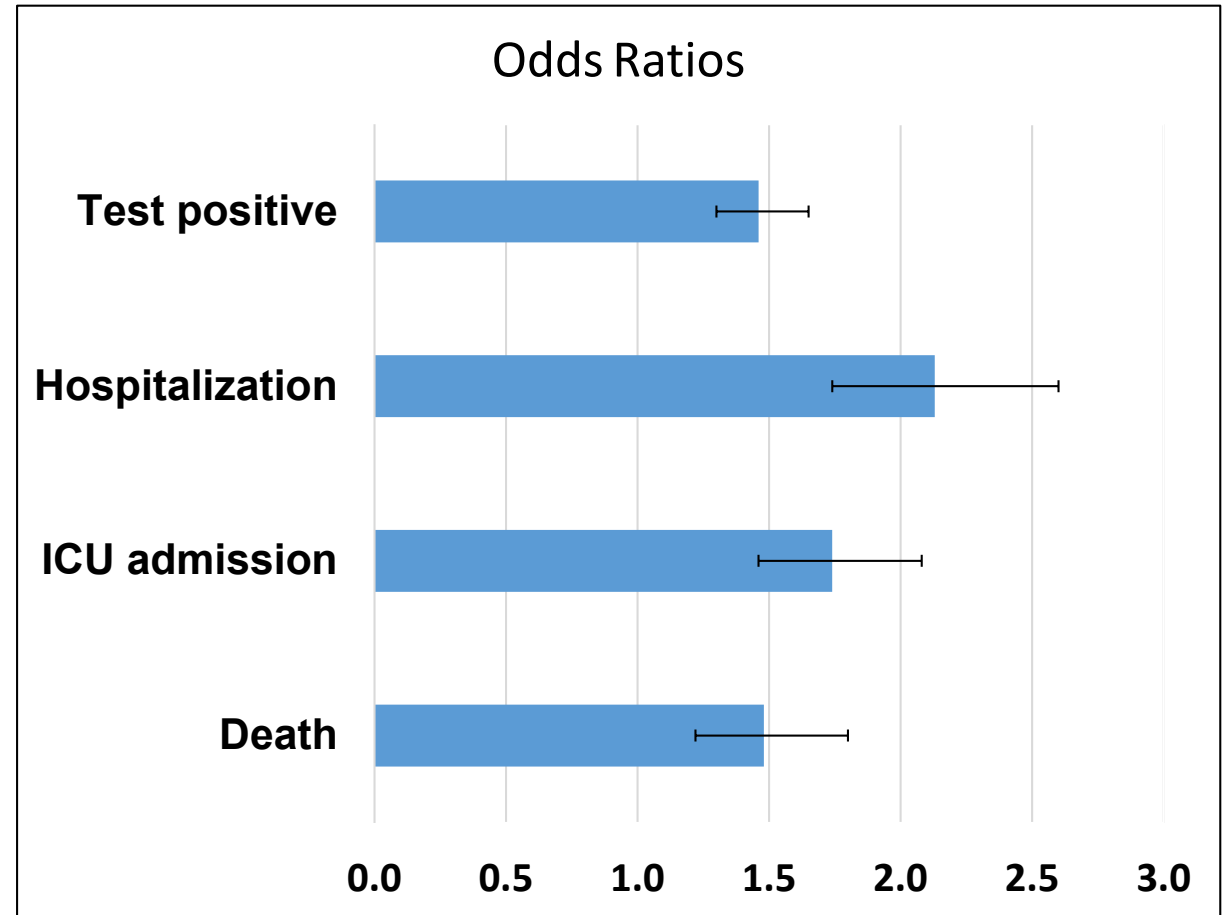




# COVID-19 & Obesity

People with obesity were:

- 46% more likely to test positive
- 113% more likely to be hospitalized
- 74% more likely to be admitted to an ICU
- 48% more likely to die

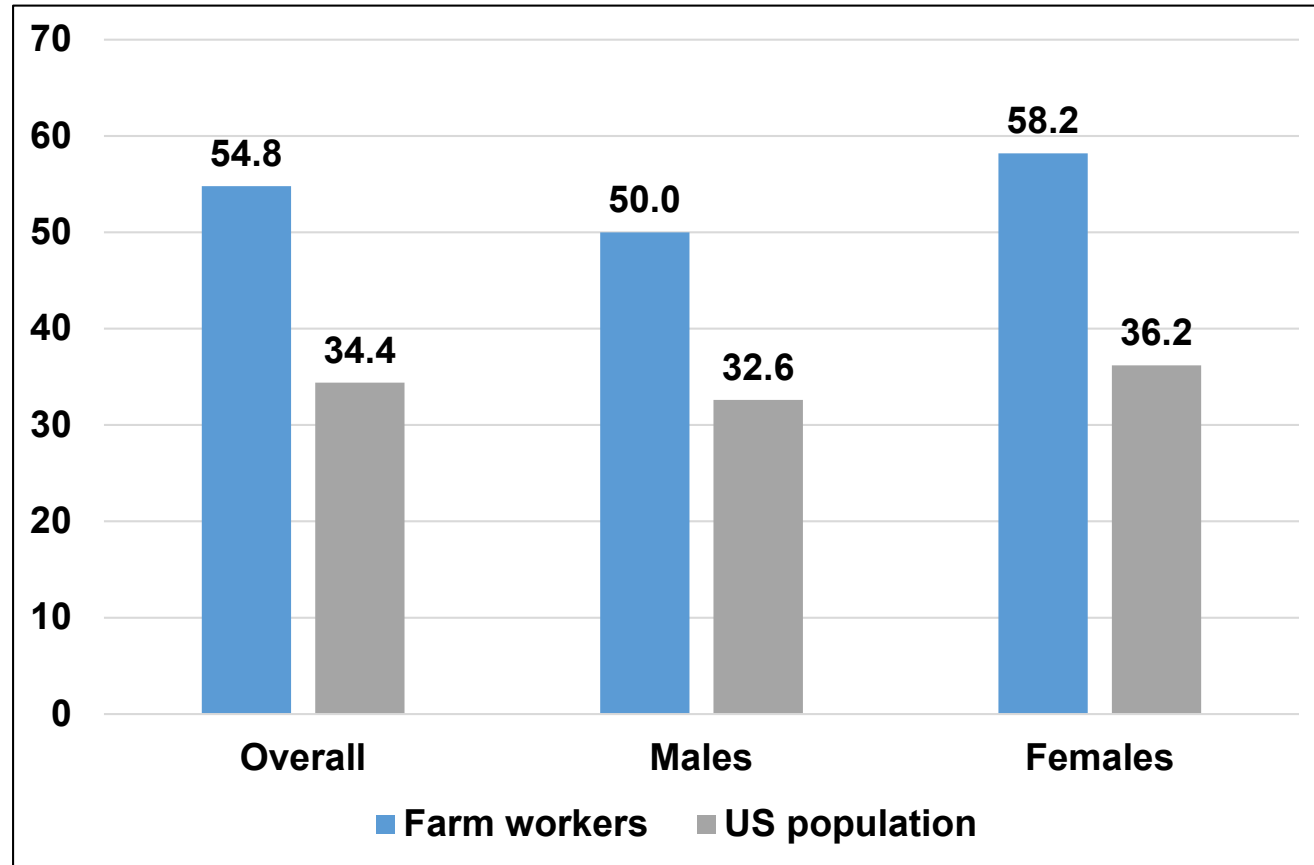


# The health of farmworkers in Central California

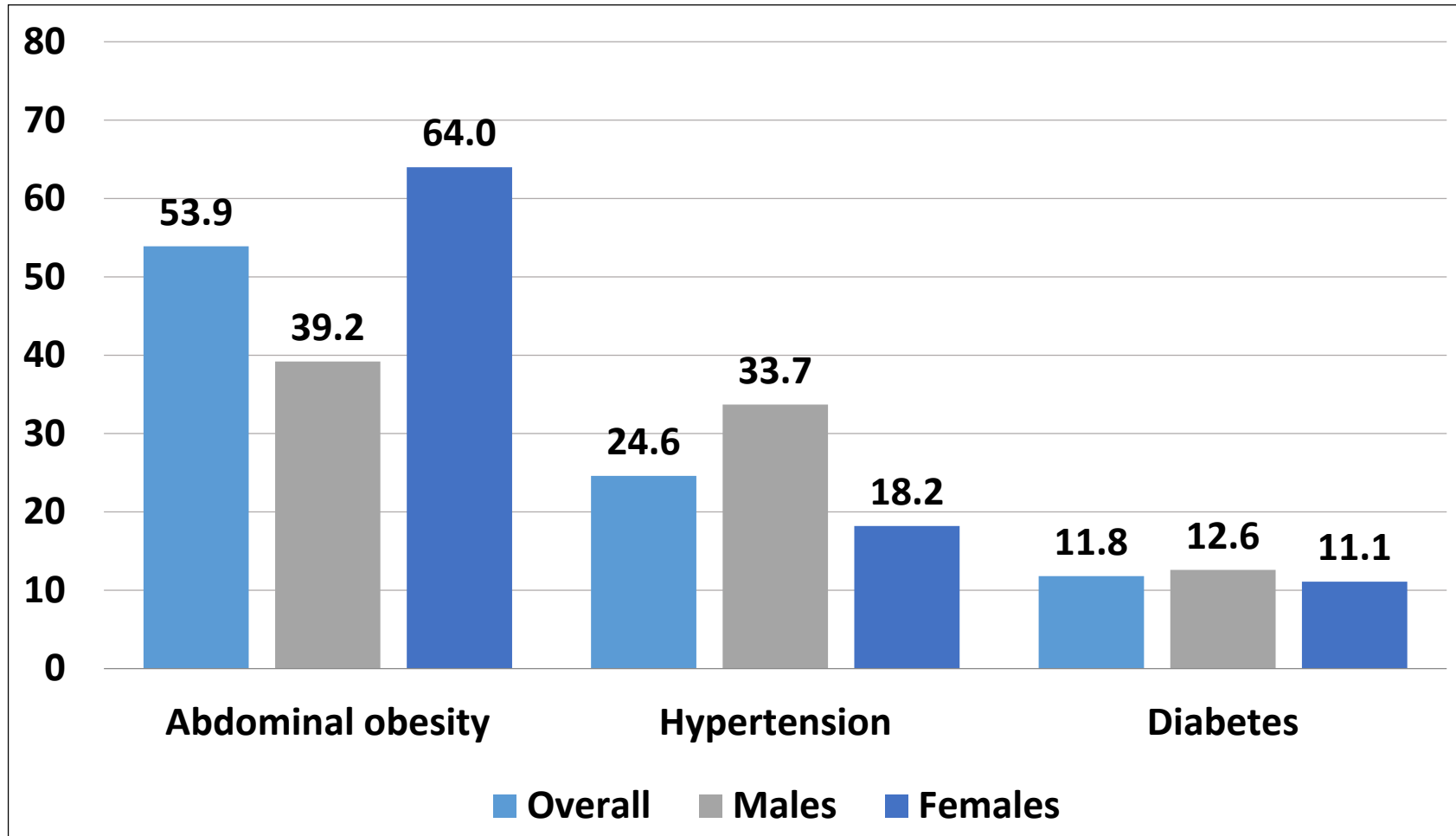
- Representative sample from Central California
- Data collected in 2009-2010
- 843 individuals from farmworker households
- Interview and clinical measurements



# Obesity in farmworkers in Central California



# Other NCDs in farmworkers in Central California



# Support for essential farmworkers

- Economical support, regardless of legal status
- Access to health care, regardless of legal status
- Access to supplemental nutrition programs
- Delivery of comprehensive and culturally relevant nutrition education
  - CBOs (peer-based, *Promotoras*)
  - Employment-based efforts





# Acknowledgements

- Data presented is from the *Mexican Immigration to California: Agricultural Safety and Acculturation* (MICASA) study
- Principal Investigator: Dr. Marc Schenker (UC Davis)
- Funding:
  - NIOSH (2U500H007550 and RO1OH009293)
  - The California Endowment



**Erik Nicholson**  
**Founding Partner**



## The Curse of Being “Essential”

- Heightened marginalization
- Increased health risks for worker and her/his family
- Decreased net income
- Increased incidence of hunger
- System failure



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# Open Q & A



## Polling question

Did the information provided improve your knowledge and understanding of Critical links between **Essential Work, Farmworker Health and Food System Resiliency?**

Yes definitely, somewhat, not much, does not apply

## Polling question

**Were the electronic resources new to you?**

Yes definitely, somewhat, not much, does not apply

## Polling question

**Will you use information from today's webinar with your clientele?**

Yes definitely, somewhat, not much, does not apply



Food Systems Resiliency Webinar Series #10  
10 to 11 am



## Reducing Food Costs and Improving Sustainability

Registration at: <https://ucanr.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=32059>

Between the fields and your table many foods are processed. Learn how valuable ruminants are to turn coproducts, byproducts and otherwise wasted nutrients into highly nutritious foods and fiber.

Please join panel members **Jennifer Heguy**, Dairy Advisor San Joaquin, Stanislaus and Merced Counties, **Dr. Ed DePeters**, Professor UC Davis (dairy cattle nutritionist) and **Josh Davy**, Livestock and Natural Resources Advisor, Tehama County for a stimulating conversation about the environmental importance of ruminants for the profitability of California's Agriculture.

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