



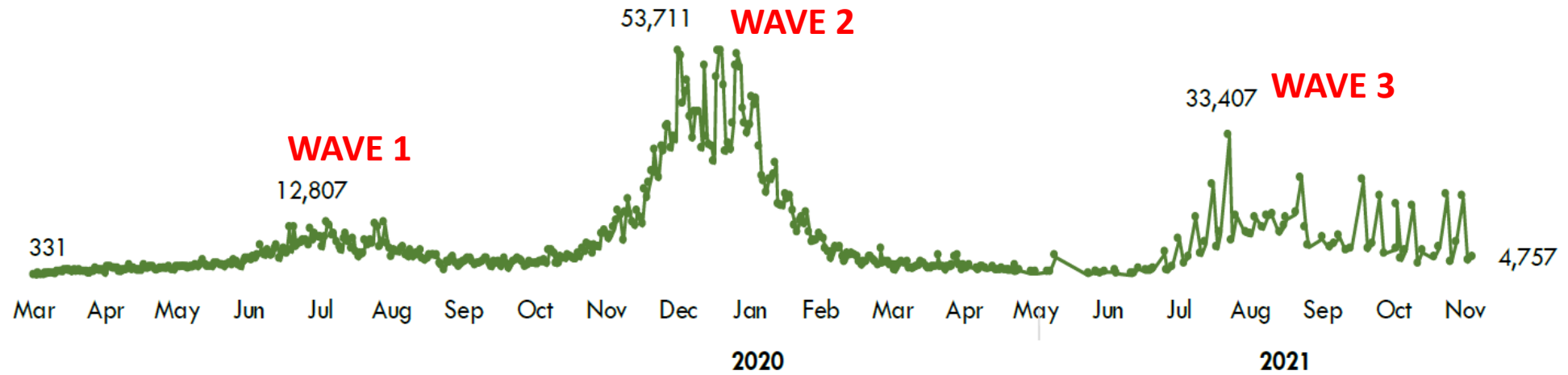
# CRIHB COVID-19 Updates November 16, 2021

*Please sign-in in the Group  
Chat with your name and  
Tribe or Indian Health  
Program name*

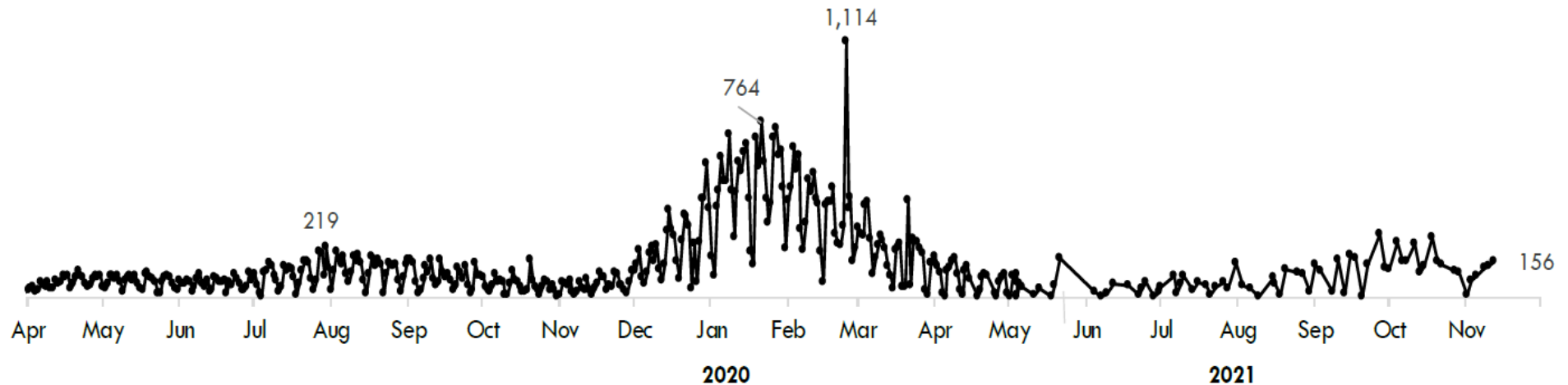




New Confirmed Cases in California by Date



New Confirmed Deaths in California by Date



California COVID-19 threat level: **High**

**DAILY NEW CASES**

 **13.8** PER 100K

COVID NOT CONTAINED, BUT  
DAILY NEW CASES ARE AT MEDIUM  
LEVELS

**INFECTION RATE**

 **0.85**

COVID IS STILL SPREADING,  
BUT AT LOW LEVELS

**POSITIVE TEST RATE**

 **2.3%**

INDICATES LOW TESTING  
POSITIVITY

Lab tests reported statewide\*: 98,640,328

7-day test positivity rate\*: 2.0%

\*as of 10/17/21

**DAILY NEW CASES**

 **15.3** PER 100K

COVID NOT CONTAINED, BUT  
DAILY NEW CASES ARE AT MEDIUM  
LEVELS

**INFECTION RATE**

 **0.99**

COVID IS STILL SPREADING,  
BUT AT MEDIUM LEVELS

**POSITIVE TEST RATE**

 **2.7%**

INDICATES LOW TESTING  
POSITIVITY

Lab tests reported statewide\*: 105,713,064

7-day test positivity rate\*: 2.4%

\*as of 11/10/21





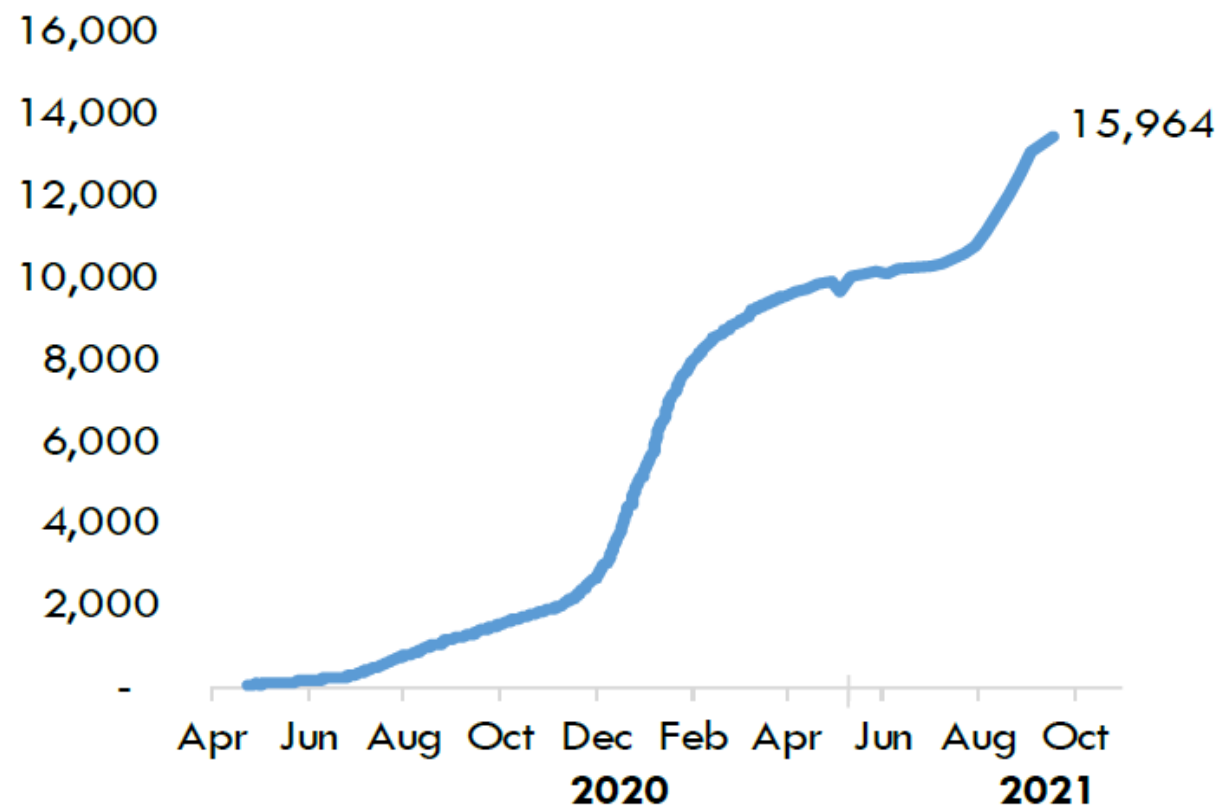
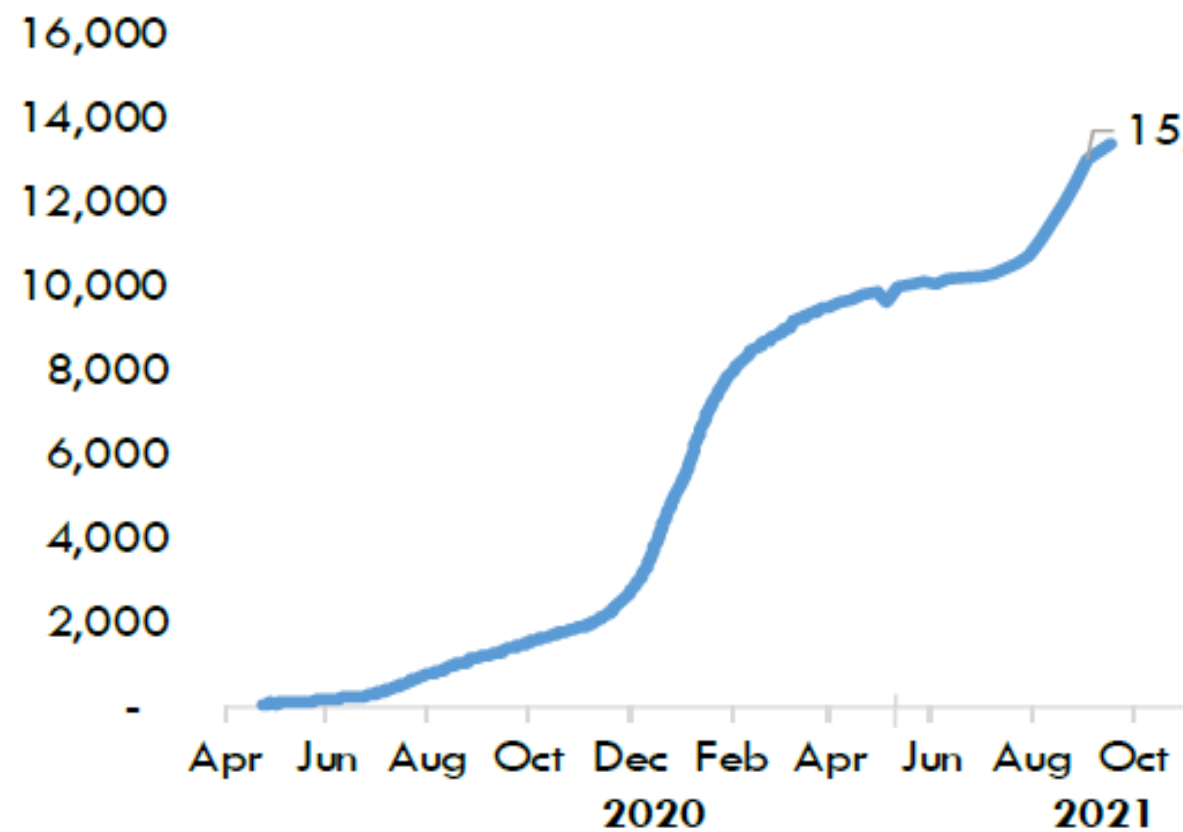
# Variants in California

As of November 10, 251,405 samples have been sequenced in California. In August 2021, 15% of cases in California have been sequenced so far. In July 2021, 22% of cases in California were sequenced. The table below shows the percent of specimens sequenced that are variants of concern or variants of interest statewide.

Specimen Collection Month	Alpha	Beta	Gamma	Delta	Epsilon	Zeta	Eta	Iota	Kappa	Mu
21-Oct	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	98.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%



# COVID-19 cases in AIAN





# Vaccine updates

- A lower-dose version of the Pfizer vaccine has been proven safe and effective in preventing COVID-19 in children 5 years of age and older
- Booster shots are now available (Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson and Johnson)



# Question

- Have you observed or heard of any barriers related to obtaining a booster shot from the community you served?



Data from [California Department of Public Health \(CDPH\)](#) does not include vaccines administered by Federal entities such as **Indian Health Service**, Department of Defense, U.S. Federal Bureau of Prisons, and Veterans Affairs.

55,130,498

Doses administered

2,866,091

People partially vaccinated

25,058,732

People fully vaccinated



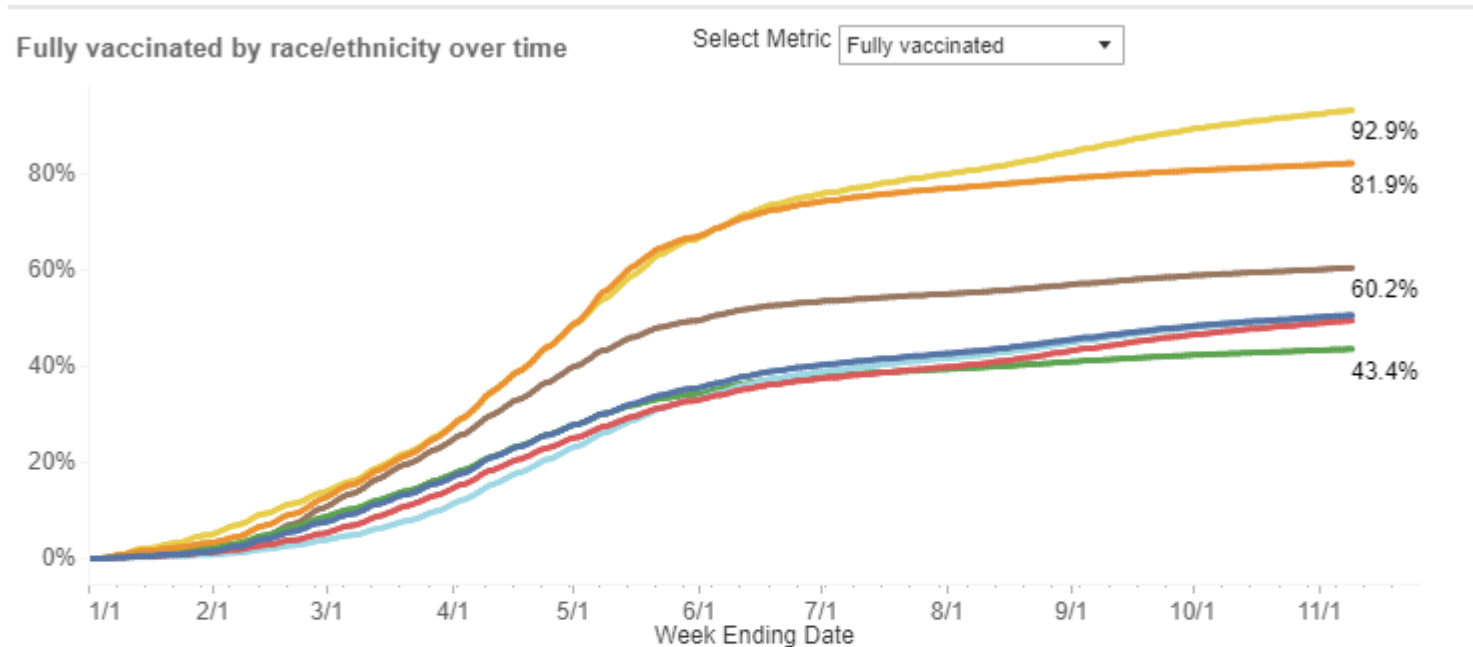
Doses administered by county of residence

Los Angeles	14,203,668
San Diego	4,921,197
Orange	4,555,915
Santa Clara	3,221,846
Alameda	2,623,455

As of 11/12/2021. Source: CDPH



# Fully vaccinated by race/ethnicity in California



**AIAN = 50.4%**

Note: Population estimates do not include "other" or "unknown" race and ethnicity categories, therefore their percentage of state population is not available. Some race/ethnicity groups in this county may have small populations. Where the county of residence was not reported, the county where vaccinated is used. Data is not shown where there are fewer than 11 records in a group.





**COVID-NET :: Entire Network :: 2020-21 :: Weekly Rate**

Rates per 100,000 population

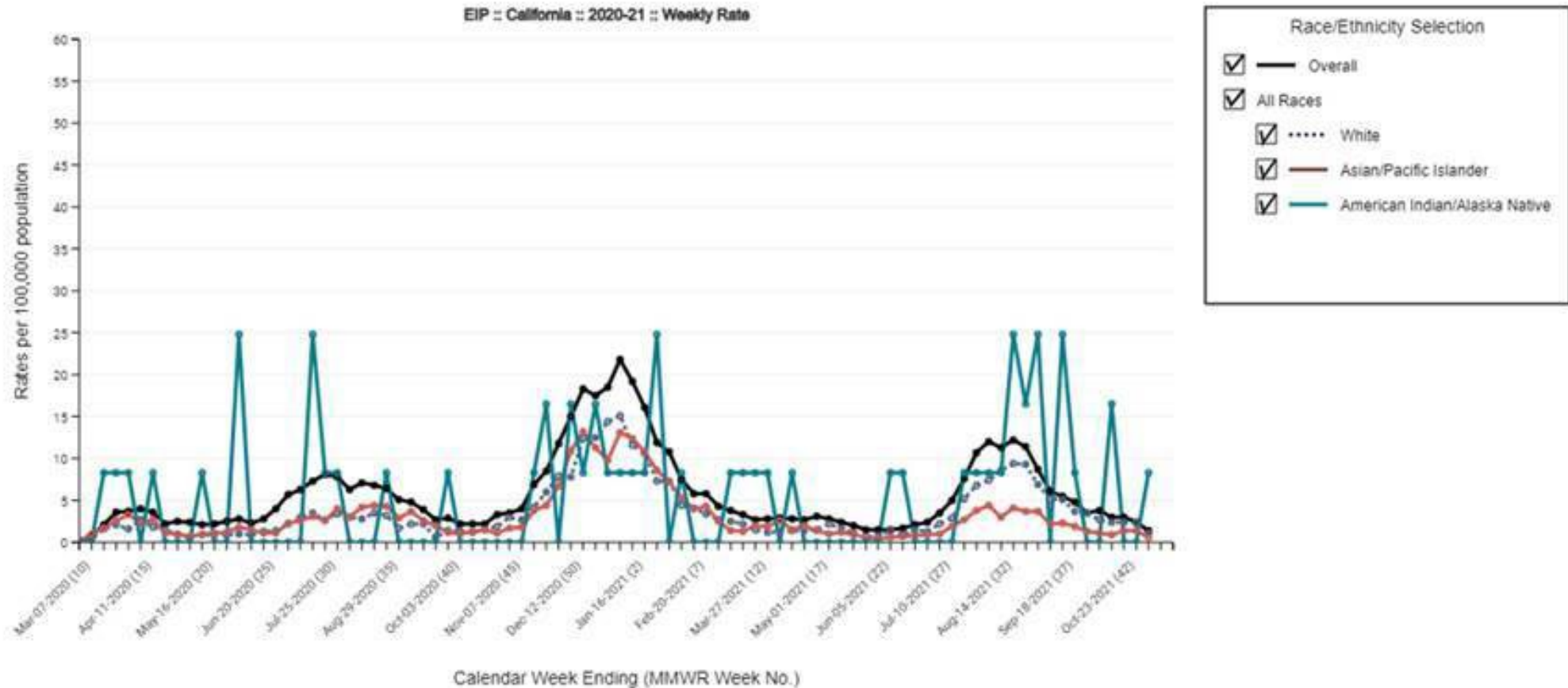
**Race/Ethnicity Selection**

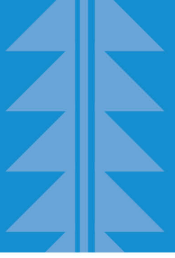
- ☒ Overall
- ☒ All Races
  - ☒ White
  - ☒ Black
  - ☒ Hispanic/Latino
  - ☒ Asian/Pacific Islander
  - ☒ American Indian/Alaska Native

Line chart showing COVID-19 rates per 100,000 population from March 2020 to November 2021. The chart includes an overall rate and rates for various racial/ethnic groups: White, Black, Hispanic/Latino, Asian/Pacific Islander, and American Indian/Alaska Native. The American Indian/Alaska Native group shows the highest peak, exceeding 50 rates per 100,000 population in late 2020.

## Laboratory-Confirmed COVID-19-Associated Hospitalizations

Preliminary weekly rates as of Nov 06, 2021





# CDC Foundation COVID-19 Corps Staff

- The CDC Foundation has hired the following position to serve California Tribal communities. This is a 100% remote and will work directly with California Tribes and Tribal/Urban Indian Health Programs.
- Tribal Nation Epidemiologist (2)
  - Krista Morris, [kmorris@cdcfoundation.org](mailto:kmorris@cdcfoundation.org)
  - John Egbo
- Tribal Nation Health Educator
  - Jaylin Bell
- Tribal Nation Public Health Disease Investigator (2)
  - Sasha Hoskie
  - Mwihaki Gaciri



# Examples of work products

- Situational reports
- Data dashboards
- Preparedness plans
- Case investigations and contact tracing in coordination with counties
- Maps
- Educational materials





*Submit CTEC TA online request:*  
<https://crihb.org/technical-assistance-request-form/>

## How to reach us for questions:

### Clinical-related assistance:

Thomas Kim, MD, MPH

Medical Director/Epidemiologist

[tkim@crihb.org](mailto:tkim@crihb.org)

### Community or grant-related assistance:

Kathleen Jack, MPH

Deputy Director, Research and Public Health

[kjack@crihb.org](mailto:kjack@crihb.org)

### Epidemiologic or data-related assistance:

Aurimar Ayala, MPH

Epidemiology Manager

[aayala@crihb.org](mailto:aayala@crihb.org)

# COVID-19 Vaccine for Young Children and Other Briefings

Health Systems Development and  
California Tribal Epidemiology Center  
November 16, 2021



**CRIHB**

The California Rural Indian Health Board, Inc.

# Today's Briefing

- Case for Covid-19 vaccination in young children
- Confusion about booster doses
- Winter predictions

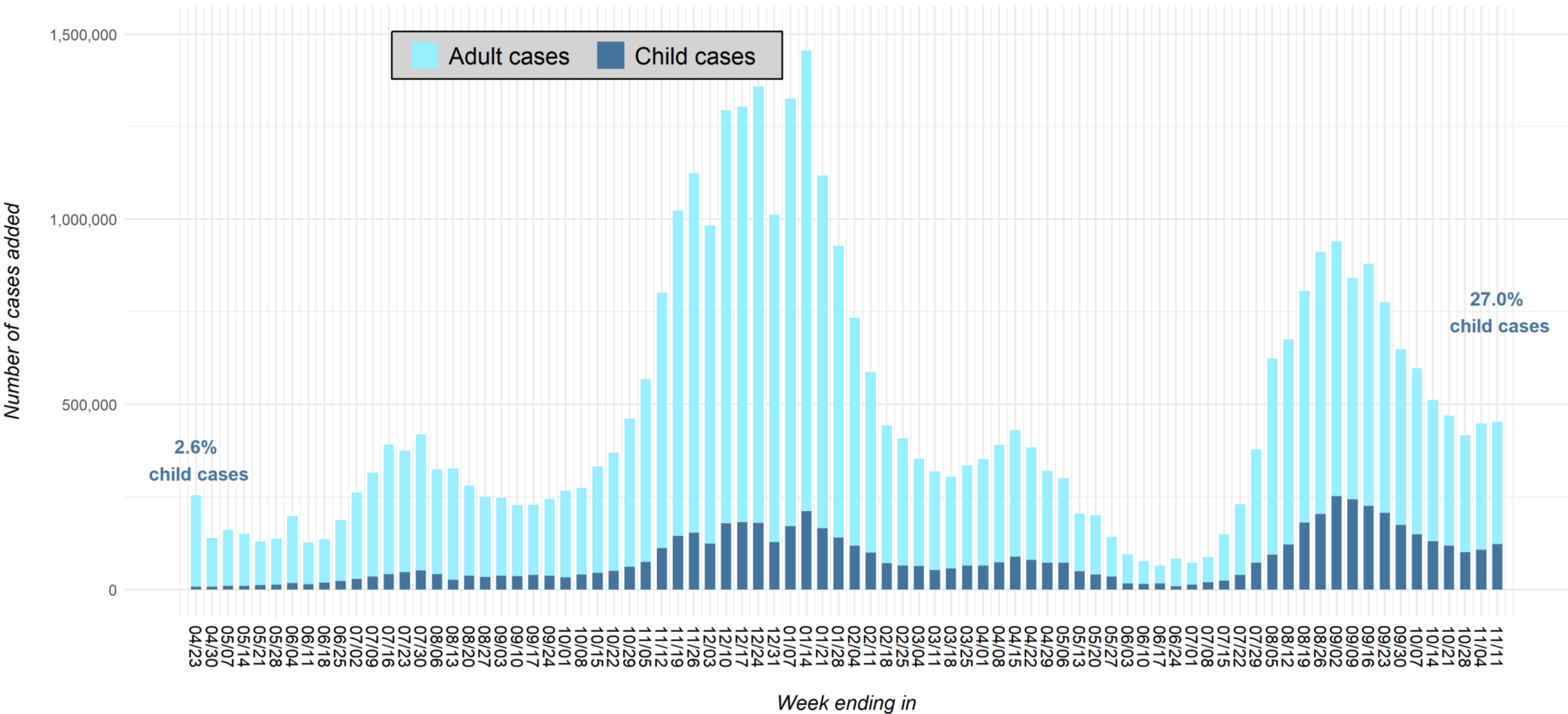
# Impact of Covid-19 upon children

- Disruptions in school-based learning and peer interaction
- Missed life events
- Financial impacts upon the family
- Increase in related stress, anxiety, depression
- Interruption of routine healthcare
- Many others...

*We cannot rely on mitigation measures alone  
(school closures or masking)*

# Children disproportionately infected

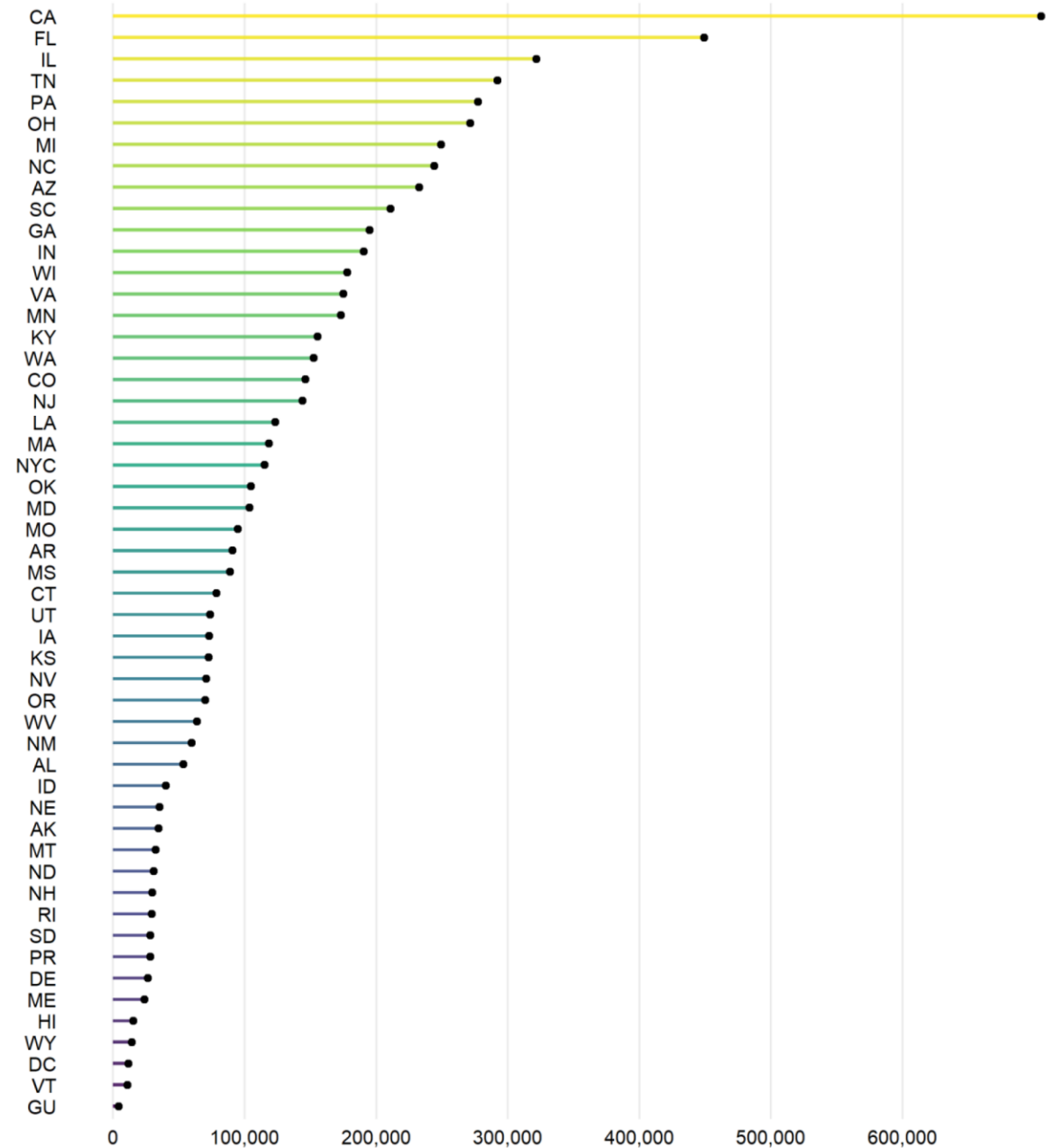
**Fig 8. United States: Number of COVID-19 Cases Added in Past Week for Children and Adults\***





## Fig 2. Cumulative Number of Child COVID-19 Cases: 11/11/21

- 6,625,857 total child COVID-19 cases (cumulative)
- Ten states reported 200,000+ child cases
- Three states reported fewer than 15,000 child cases



See detail in Appendix: Data from 48 states, NYC, DC, PR, and GU (TX excluded from figure)  
 All data reported by state/local health departments are preliminary and subject to change  
 Analysis by American Academy of Pediatrics and Children's Hospital Association  
 As of 6/30/21, NE COVID-19 dashboard is no longer available; NE cumulative cases through 6/24/21  
 Due to available data and changes made to dashboard, AL cumulative cases through 7/29/21



American Academy of Pediatrics  
 DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



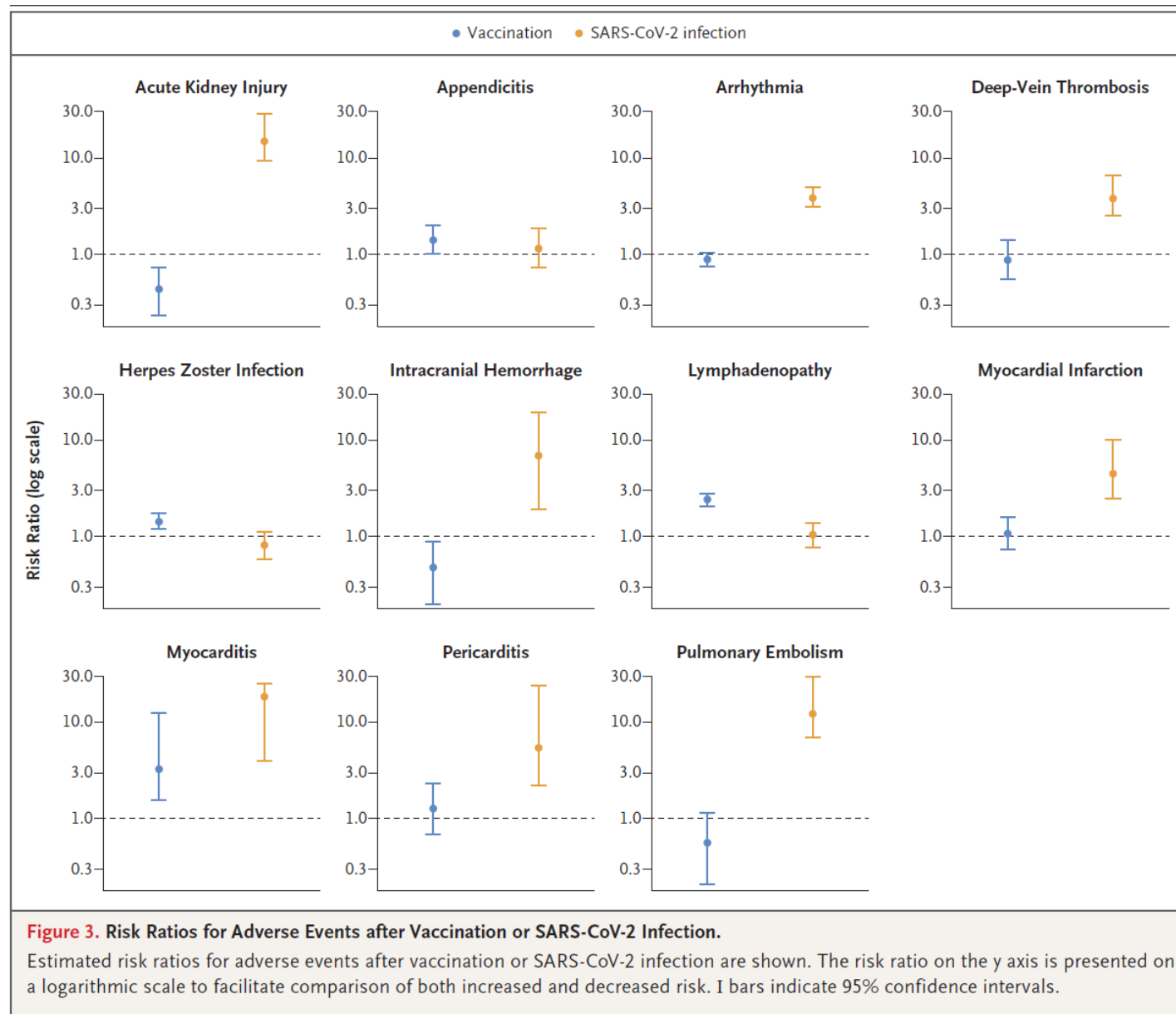
## Comparative incidence of selected vaccine-preventable diseases in persons <18 years of age, California

Disease	Cases	Deaths	Time Period
COVID-19	>640,000	38	March 2020-
Influenza*	1,500,000	22	2019-20 season
Pertussis**	4,078	1	2019
< 4 mos. Age	199	1	2019
Mumps†	41	0	2019
Meningococcal	4	1	2019
Acute hepatitis A	14	0	2019
Measles	15	0	2019

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/meetings/downloads/slides-2021-11-2-3/08-COVID-Oliver-508.pdf>

# Pfizer-BioNTech Covid-19 Vaccine for 5-11 year olds

- FDA authorization, October 29
- 10 mcg dose (orange cap), 2-dose/3wk interval
- Efficacy
  - RCT in ~4,700 children in US and Europe
  - Immune response at lower dose comparable to adult dose response
  - Calculated 90.7% vaccine effectiveness
- Safety
  - 1,444 children followed for 2 months after 2<sup>nd</sup> dose
  - Most common: injection site, fatigue, headache, muscle pain esp. after 2<sup>nd</sup> dose
  - Mild to moderate with resolution in 1-2 days
  - No anaphylaxis, myocarditis, deaths
  - Not powered to detect myocarditis; ongoing study and surveillance but FDA calculation concludes benefit outweighs risk

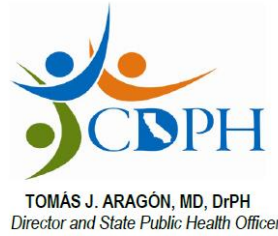


# Reasons to vaccinate younger children

- Delta found unvaccinated groups
- 7.5B doses given; benefits > risks
- Covid-19 has real risks to children
  - MIS-C
  - Long covid
  - 36-fold increase in myocarditis in those aged < 16
- Transmission to at-risk people
- Overall community protection, esp. multigenerational homes



# Booster confusion on who is eligible



State of California—Health and Human Services Agency  
California Department of Public Health



November 9, 2021

Subject: Booster Messaging

Dear Local Health Jurisdictions and Providers,

This letter clarifies the State's expectations for administering COVID-19 vaccine boosters and patient eligibility. Providers should employ the following guidance and criteria:

1. Proactively outreach to patients who:
  - Are age 65 and older
  - Have underlying medical conditions
  - Received the J&J vaccine (single dose)
2. Allow patients to self-determine their risk of exposure. Do not turn a patient away who is requesting a booster if:
  - **The patient is 18 or over and has met the 6-month original vaccination series time period for the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine or it has been at least 2 months since their J&J vaccine.**

The patient's assessment of risk exposure may include, but is not limited to, those who work with the public or live with someone who works with the public, live or work with someone at high risk of severe impact of COVID, live in geographic areas that have been heavily impacted by COVID, reside in high transmission areas, live in a congregate setting, experience social inequity, or other risk conditions as assessed by the individual.

**A Pfizer or Moderna** booster dose is recommended if you:  
Received your second dose at least six months ago, and

- Are 65 or older, or
- Age 18+ who live in long-term care settings, or have underlying medical conditions, or at increased risk due to social inequity, or who work or live in high-risk settings

**A Johnson & Johnson** booster dose is recommended if you:

- Received your first dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine at least 2 months ago, and
- Are 18 or older

# What can we expect for this winter?

- Tribal leaders and the future
- Unknown if there will be a surge
- Rethinking how we see Covid-19
  - Likely impossibility of herd immunity
    - vaccine performance and waning immunity
    - new variants
  - Becoming endemic (like influenza and other coronaviruses)
  - What do we pay attention to?
    - All “cases” are not the same
    - Focus on hospitalizations and deaths? Long Covid-19? Cases in those aged > 50?
  - Communicating value of vaccination

# CRIHB COVID-19 Update Meeting Notes

## CRIHB STAFF

## ATTENDEES:

Aurimar Ayala  
Dr. Thomas Kim  
Kathleen Jack

**DATE:** Tuesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 (3:30 PM-4:30 PM, PST)

**HOST:** CRIHB

**MEETING RECORDING:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/BPcFEpZqGf8YomSugtk4IV3qcJupL2N-RfRlqZ6D5VmBCgybwLZRdLLmJAegw1D2.EKDHeVrgisXlmRWW?startTime=1637105492000>

### **Topics discussed:**

- Current COVID-19 case trends in California
- COVID-19 Variant in California
- COVID-19 cases in American Indian/Alaska Native (AIAN) communities
- Vaccine Updates
- COVID-19 and children
- Winter predictions

### **Case trends in California:**

- As of mid-November, there are currently 4,757 cases
- Cases are not increasing nor decreasing
- Transmission of COVID-19 persists
- Slight increase since October in daily new cases, infection rates, and positive test rates

### **COVID-19 Variants:**

- The Delta variant remains the most dominant and prevalent variant in California

### **COVID-19 Trends among American Indian or Alaska Native communities:**

- Compared with 15,015 cases in October, there are currently 15,964 cases among AIAN as of November
- Currently 50.4% fully vaccinated AIAN individuals overall in CA
- As of November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021, AIAN experience higher rates of COVID-19 hospitalizations compared versus other racial/ethnic groups in California

### **Vaccine Updates:**

- A lower dose version of the Pfizer vaccine Booster is now approved for children 5 years of age and older
- Booster shots are now available

### **CDC Foundation Resources:**

- Positions serving California Tribal communities offering various services-
  - Tribal Nation Emergency Preparedness Planner, Epidemiologist (2), Tribal Nation Health Educator, Tribal Nation Public Health Disease Educator (2)

### **COVID-19 and Children**

- COVID-19 cases have increased among children in recent months
- The Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine was authorized by the FDA on October 29<sup>th</sup>
- According to a recent study, the vaccine for children is 90.7% effective

### **Winter Predictions:**

- Possible surge is unknown, but is possible
- Shift from pandemic to an endemic (i.e. influenza)
- Emphasis on communicating the value of the vaccination