CRIHB COVID-19

Updates

November 16, 2021

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specimen Collection Month</th>
<th>Alpha</th>
<th>Beta</th>
<th>Gamma</th>
<th>Delta</th>
<th>Epsilon</th>
<th>Zeta</th>
<th>Eta</th>
<th>Iota</th>
<th>Kappa</th>
<th>Mu</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21-Oct</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>98.1%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Doses Administered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>14,203,668</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Diego</td>
<td>4,921,197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>4,555,915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Clara</td>
<td>3,221,846</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alameda</td>
<td>2,623,455</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As of 11/12/2021. Source: CDPH
Fully vaccinated by race/ethnicity in California

AIAN = 50.4%

Source: CDPH, accessed 11/16/2021
As of November 6, 2021, the graph to the right shows that AIAN nationwide have higher rates of COVID-19 hospitalization (23.4 per 100,000) than Whites (5.2 per 100,000).
Laboratory-Confirmed COVID-19-Associated Hospitalizations

Preliminary weekly rates as of Nov 06, 2021

[Graph showing rates per 100,000 population with various race/ethnicity categories]
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
  - John Egbo

- Tribal Nation Health Educator
  - Jaylin Bell

- Tribal Nation Public Health Disease Investigator (2)
  - Sasha Hoskie
  - Mwiwaki Gaciri
Examples of work products

• Situational reports
• Data dashboards
• Preparedness plans
• Case investigations and contact tracing in coordination with counties
• Maps
• Educational materials
How to reach us for questions:

Clinical-related assistance:
Thomas Kim, MD, MPH
Medical Director/Epidemiologist
tkim@crihb.org

Community or grant-related assistance:
Kathleen Jack, MPH
Deputy Director, Research and Public Health
kjack@crihb.org

Epidemiologic or data-related assistance:
Aurimar Ayala, MPH
Epidemiology Manager
aayala@crihb.org

Submit CTEC TA online request:
https://crihb.org/technical-assistance-request-form/
COVID-19 Vaccine for Young Children and Other Briefings

Health Systems Development and California Tribal Epidemiology Center
November 16, 2021
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 disproportionally 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
## Comparative incidence of selected vaccine-preventable diseases in persons <18 years of age, California

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease</th>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
<th>Time Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COVID-19</td>
<td>&gt;640,000</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>March 2020-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza*</td>
<td>1,500,000</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>2019-20 season</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pertussis**</td>
<td>4,078</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 4 mos. Age</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mumps†</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meningococcal</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acute hepatitis A</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measles</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 2nd dose
- Most common: injection site, fatigue, headache, muscle pain esp. after 2nd 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
Figure 3. Risk Ratios for Adverse Events after Vaccination or SARS-CoV-2 Infection.

Estimated risk ratios for adverse events after vaccination or SARS-CoV-2 infection are shown. The risk ratio on the y-axis is presented on a logarithmic scale to facilitate comparison of both increased and decreased risk. Error bars indicate 95% confidence intervals.
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

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

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.
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
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 6th, 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 29th
- 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