

COVID-19 Emergency Response Strategy Update

November 16, 2021

Tina Rivera

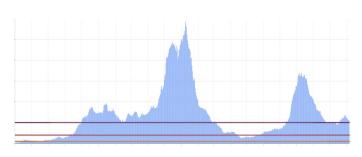
Interim Director

Sonoma County Department of Health Services

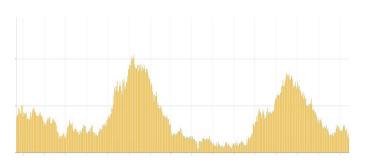


Dr. Sundari MaseSonoma County Health Officer

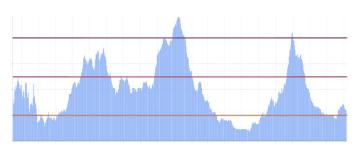
Overall Countywide Trends



New cases per 100,000 residents per day



COVID-19 hospitalizations



Overall test positivity



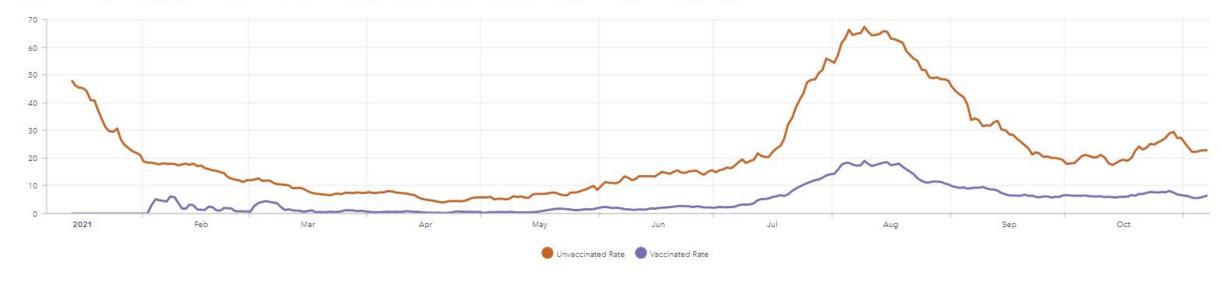
Lowest HPI test positivity

• Metrics as of 11/15/21:

- 10.6 new cases per 100,000 residents per day
- 2.3% overall test positivity
- 2.1% test positivity in lowest HPI quartile
- Averaging 22 COVID-19 hospitalizations per day (7 day average)
- 90 people have died from COVID-19 since July 1st

Sonoma County Case Rate by Vaccination Status (11/15)

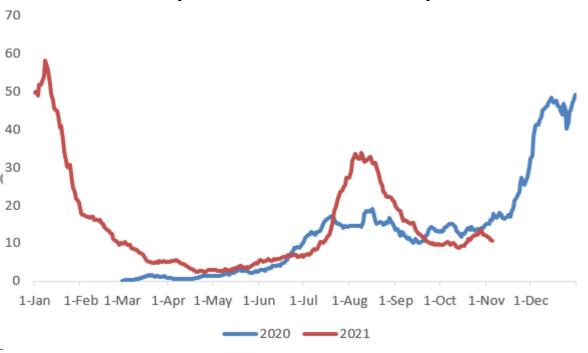
New Cases per Day per 100,000 Residents, by Vaccination Status (7 day average, 7 day lag)



- Unvaccinated population: 22.9 new cases per 100,000 per day
- Fully Vaccinated population: 6.5 new cases per 100,000 per day

Potential for Case Rate Increases

Sonoma County COVID-19 Case Rates, by Year



- With colder weather and the start of the holiday season prompting more indoor activities and gathering, the transmission of COVID-19 may increase
- The degree to which 2021 trends will mirror those seen in 2020 will depend on several factors

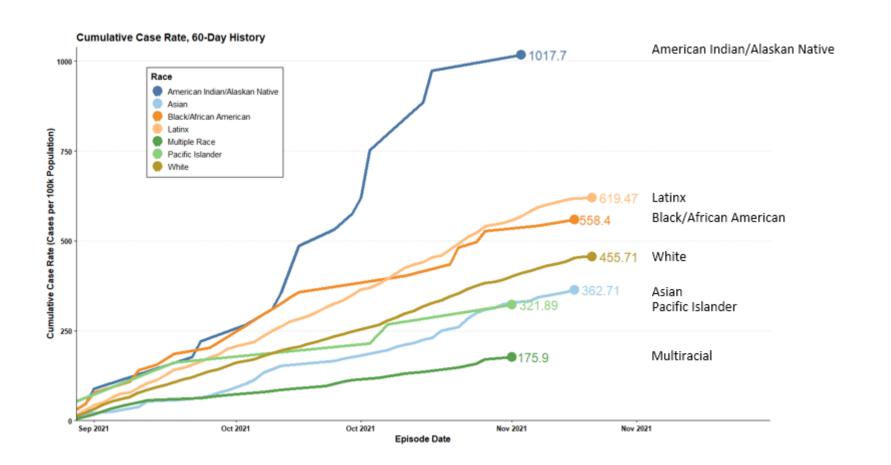
Factors for Consideration

- In comparison to 2020, we have a few significant factors working in the county's favor to curb transmission this winter:
 - Nearly 70% of the total population is fully vaccinated
 - Children 5-11 are now eligible to be vaccinated
 - Vaccine verification, testing and indoor masking health orders in effect

• However, risks remain:

- 30% of the population remains unvaccinated
- Delta is still present and new more transmissible variants may emerge
- Unknown extent to which waning immunity, booster effectiveness and uptake will balance one another
- Colder, wet weather prompting more indoor dining including unmasked eating indoors in schools
- More holiday travel, tourism, and gatherings than last year possible with fewer restrictions in place
- The hospital census (of COVID and non-COVID patients combined) is higher this year than last year,
 meaning that hospitals may become overwhelmed more easily in the event of a winter surge

Case Rate Trends by Racial/Ethnic Group, Past 60 Days

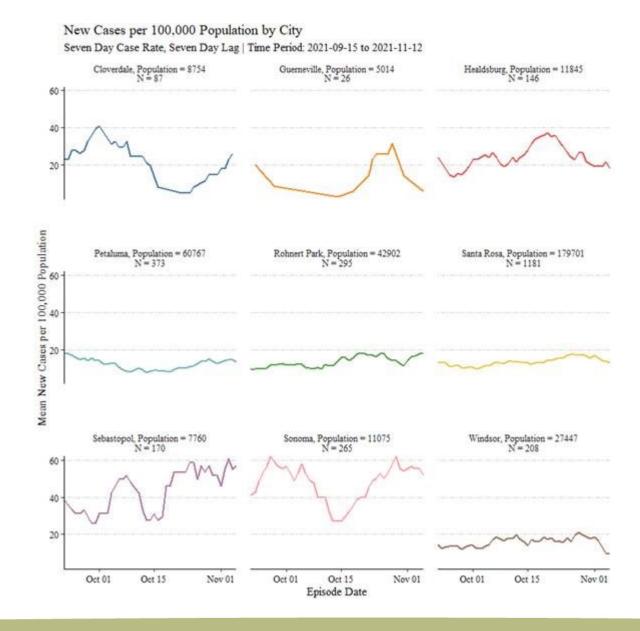


Number of cases, Past 60 Days

- White (1,413)
- Latinx (836)
- Asian (74)
- Black/African American (36)
- Multiracial (31)
- American Indian/Alaskan Native (23)
- Pacific Islander (6)

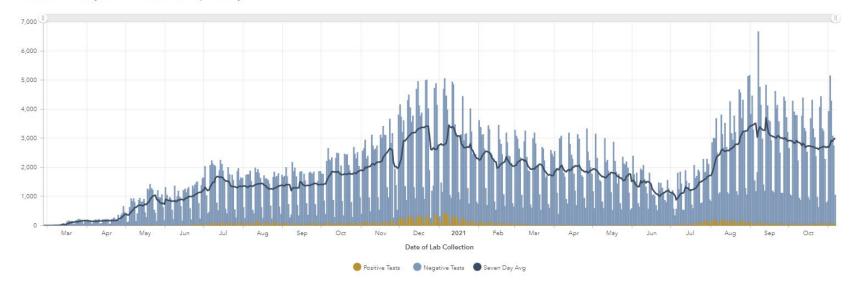
Case Rate Trends by City, Past 60 Days

- The greatest number of cases are occurring in Santa Rosa, Petaluma, Rohnert Park, and Sonoma
- Relative to population size, the weekly rate of new cases per 100,000 population is highest in Sonoma and Sebastopol and increasing in Cloverdale



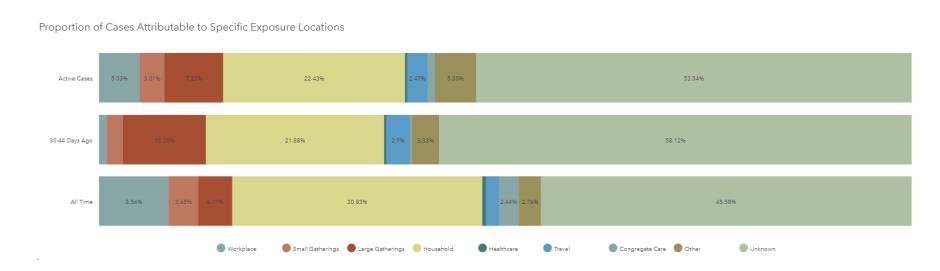
Total Tests per Day

Sonoma County Tests Conducted per Day



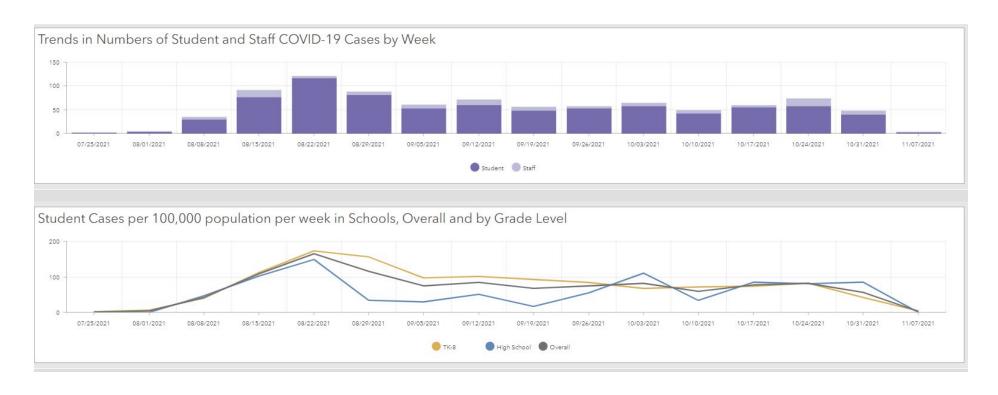
- Testing has increased over the past week
- Conducting 604 tests per 100,000 residents per day (7 day average, 7 day lag)

Source of Infection



- Primary sources of known transmission: household, gatherings, community and workplace transmission
- Recent increases in transmission associated with:
 - Gatherings--Friend/family gatherings (e.g., birthday parties), entertainment venues, Halloween events and parties
 - Students and staff in TK-12th grade schools; youth sports
 - Travel outside California
- Majority of recent cases occurred among 30-39 year olds, 40-49 year olds and 10-19 year olds

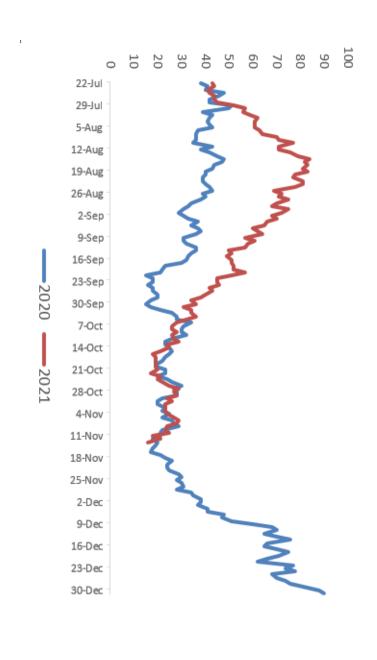
Fall 2021 COVID-19 School Cases



- Since opening for fall instruction, there have been 874 COVID-19 cases (779 students; 95 staff)
- 100 cases have been confirmed to be due to on-campus transmission
- Increases in student and staff cases have been observed in recent weeks (charts above are based on the onset dates of illness)

Hospitalization Trends: 2020 vs 2021

Number of Daily COVID-19 Hospitalizations July-December, by Year



- August-September 2021 daily COVID hospitalizations surpassed 2020 due to Delta
- prior to surge Currently at similar levels as 2020
- **Current hospitalizations:**
- 2/3 patients are unvaccinated
- Those who are vaccinated are older underlying conditions (median age 84) with multiple
- Those who are unvaccinated are younger (median age 49) and have fewer underlying conditions

Protective Effects of Vaccine

Cases

People who are **unvaccinated** are:

6.5X

More likely to be **infected** with COVID-19

Hospitalizations

People who are **unvaccinated** are:

27.8X

More likely to be **hospitalized** with COVID-19

Deaths

People who are **unvaccinated** are:

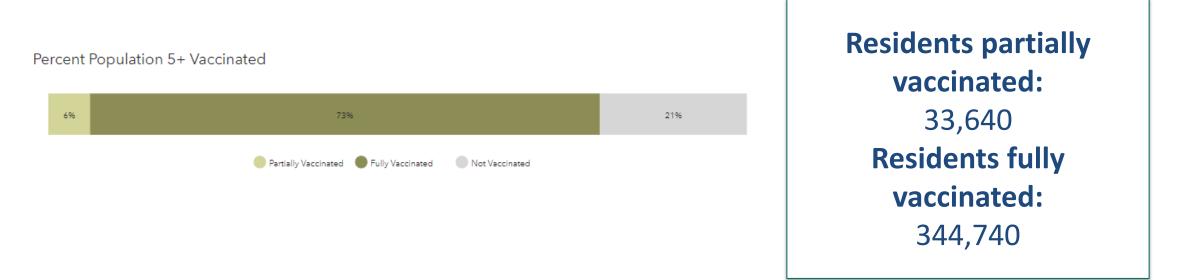
13.5X

More likely to **die** from COVID-19 related illnesses

Based on age-adjusted data from January 01, 2021 to present for deaths and 90 days prior for cases and hospitalizations (with a 7 day lag)

Vaccine Administration

778,174 doses administered (as of 11/14)



79% of the Sonoma County population aged 5+ is at least partially vaccinated (73% fully vaccinated; 6% partially vaccinated)

Vaccine Booster Updates

- Anyone over 18 who meets the timing criteria for boosters is now eligible, and should not be turned away
- Highest priority:
 - anyone over age 65
 - anyone with underlying medical conditions
 - J&J vaccine recipients
- Encourage seeking boosters from primary care provider or pharmacy, as county fixed-site locations have limited capacity and supply

Vaccine Booster Dose Administration (11/14)

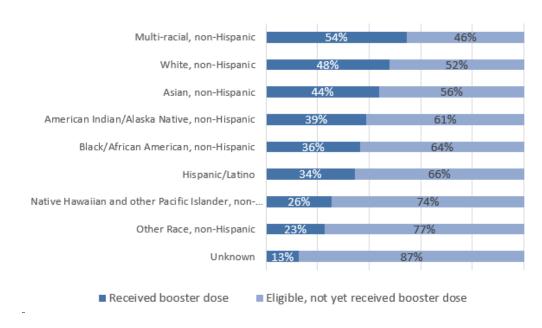
Proportion of eligible 65+ year olds with booster dose, by HPI Quartile

45% 46%

HPI Quartile 2

HPI Quartile 1

Proportion of eligible 65+ year olds with booster dose, by Race/Ethnicity



• **60,481** individuals aged 18+ have received booster doses in Sonoma County

HPI Quartile 4

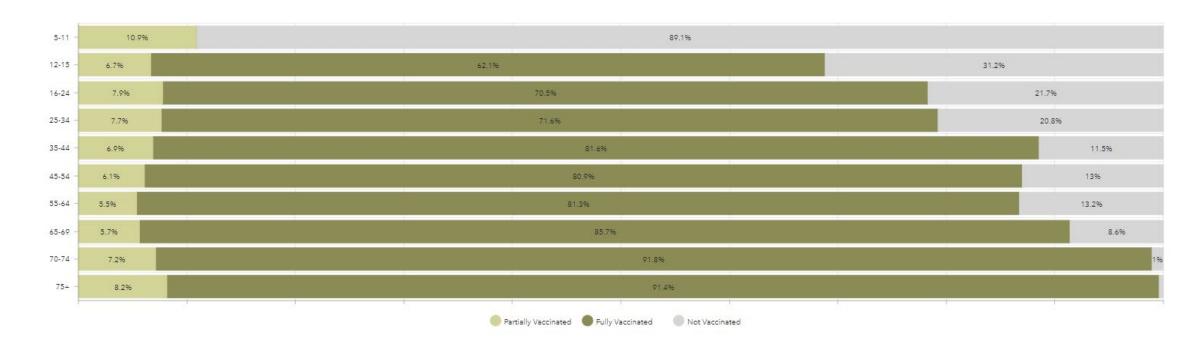
• **45.4%** of currently eligible 65+ year olds have received their booster doses

HPI Quartile 3

Pediatric Vaccine Updates

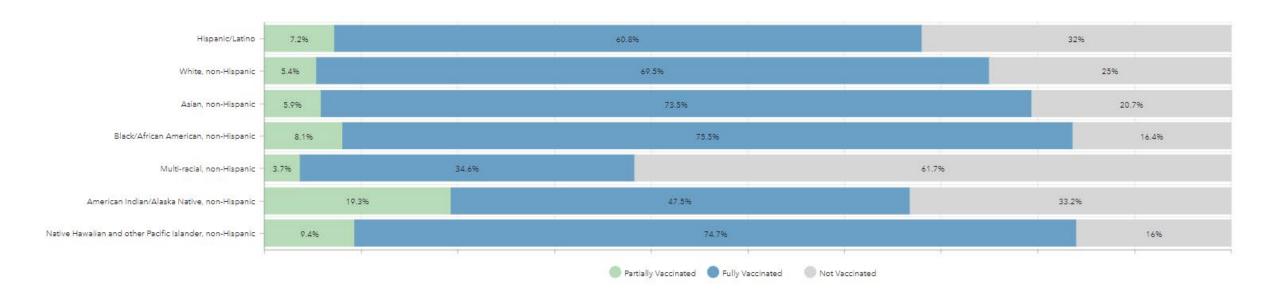
- The Pfizer vaccine is approved under EUA for ages 5-11
 - It is 1/3 the dose of the adult vaccine and consists of 2 doses 21 days apart
- Side effects are less than for the adult vaccine, and the vaccine has been found to be safe and effective
- Over 40 clinics have been set up at schools with a focus on equity
 - Parents living in other areas of the county are encouraged to schedule appointments at primary care offices and pharmacies as a first resort to encourage access for our more impacted communities

Proportion Vaccinated by Age Group



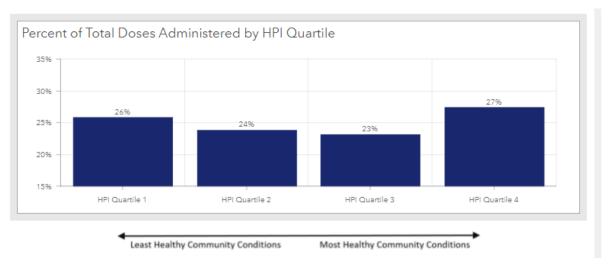
- The proportion of residents fully vaccinated by age group ranges from 62% (12-15 year olds) to 92% (70+ year olds)
- Vaccination efforts in the 5-11 year old age group began in early November. As of November 15, 4,055 5-11 year olds had received their first dose (10.9% of the 5-11 population)

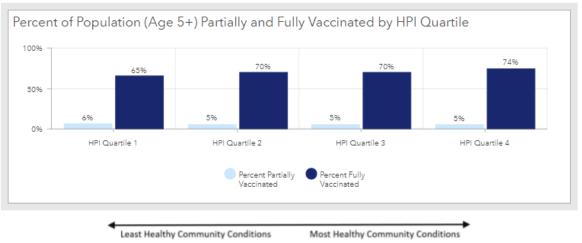
Proportion Vaccinated Within Each Race/Ethnicity



• A smaller proportion of Latinx, American Indian/Alaskan Native, and multiracial residents aged 5+ are fully vaccinated as compared to residents of other racial/ethnic groups

Vaccine Equity Measures





- Currently, 26% of vaccine doses have been administered to residents in the lowest quartile of the Healthy Places Index in which residents have access to the fewest resources
- 71% of residents aged 5+ in this quartile are at least partially vaccinated (6% partially vaccinated; 65% fully vaccinated)

Community Centered Strategies

Culturally centered strategies

Working with community organizations, such as Raizes Collective, CURA Project, and promatoras/promatores continues to be a critical strategy for reaching the most impacted communities as we support vaccine outreach/accessibility for 5-11 year olds and prepare for the possibility of a winter surge

Community engagement

- Listening to and acting upon community member feedback and input strengthens outreach and planning
 - Example: School sites for COVID vaccine clinics chosen with community input and epidemiological data to identify sites located in areas disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic
- Regular forums for engagement include the Public Health Platicas and Health Equity
 Community Group hosted by DHS COVID equity team



Current Status on ABAHO Benchmarks for Lifting Indoor Mask Mandate

Target			Status (11/09/21)	
CDC Transmission rate of less than 50 cases per week per 100,000 (Yellow—Moderate transmission) for 21 consecutive days			Not Met 99.3 cases per week per 100,000 (OrangeSubstantial Transmission)	
Low and Stable Hospitalizations , as defined by local context			Not Met	
Fully vaccinate at least 80% of total population	OR	Wait at least eight weeks after 5-11 year olds become vaccine eligible	Not Met 69.7% of population 0+ fully vaccinated	Not Met 1.5 weeks since approval