



## Mendocino County Health & Human Services Agency

*Healthy People, Healthy Communities*

**Bekkie Emery, DOC Manager**  
**H. Andrew Coren, MD, County Health Officer**



DATE: May 25, 2021  
TO: Board of Supervisors  
FROM: H. Andrew Coren, MD, Health Officer  
SUBJECT: COVID-19 Update

Every level of our nation has been hit hard with the number of cases and deaths from COVID-19. The Current status of this Pandemic shows:

World Wide New Cases and Test positivity has been decreasing, with hotspots still in India, Brazil and Mexico

United States New Cases and Test positivity are decreasing with hotspots still in the Midwest, Florida and Arizona.

In California, New Cases and Test positivity are at their lowest since summer of 2020. In Northern California Marin and Mendocino Counties have been low but have recently begun to surge.

Mendocino County has been in the YELLOW tier for 4 weeks. We have been seeing a rise in cases steadily for 3 weeks.

In the week ending 5/15/21 we had 6.1 daily new cases/ 100,000 and a testing positivity rate of 4.1%. These are red and orange tier metrics, respectively. Since it was only one week we will continue in the yellow tier.

However, in the week ending 5/22/21 we had 7.5 daily new cases and a testing positivity rate of approximately 4.5. These are Red/Purple and Orange tier respectively. This has clearly been a pattern and though the rates are not as high as others in the Northern California (Humbolt and Shasta) ours have been increasing rather than decreasing.

Our Testing rate is down to 185 per day compared to California's 400/day.

We have had 4,153 patients with Covid of whom 2,028 were Hispanic.

We currently have 4 people in the hospital, of which 2 are in the ICU.

We have had 49 Deaths from Covid which has not changed since my last report

Thus, I predict that we will be assigned the ORANGE Tier on June 2, 2021 which would probably be the second week with higher tier metrics. The State may not assign this based on other considerations, such as falling Case numbers and Test positivity, hospitalizations, and vaccine availability, or a reticence to set us back so close to the end of the Blueprint. A change to the Orange Tier would mean some reductions in capacity limits, stopping indoor bars that do not serve food and saunas and hot tubs. This may change some plans for opening County offices.

There are no current outbreaks to report but several cases have been reported in the Schools associated with sport team members who had a gathering resulting in the quarantine/closure of 3 classrooms. So household and community spread and gatherings continue to be the most common causes of spreading. We will be continuing to respond to this by promoting increased testing, and, in addition to our thorough contact investigation and tracing, we will be sending inspection teams out to sites of high-risk cases.

Optum Serve Testing Sites will be operating as follows:

Event	Days	Hours
Ukiah – Redwood Empire Fairgrounds	Saturday – Thursday	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Ft. Bragg – Veterans Hall	Tuesday	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Rotation : Point Arena/Boonville, Laytonville/Willits, Gualala/Boonville, Round Valley/Willits	Friday 5/28 is set for Pt Arena/Booneville	Location 1 – 9:00 - 12:00 Location 2 – 2:00 – 5:00

Variant testing is now being done as a part of a statewide system called CovidNet including the State and County labs as well as academic and private labs. We know Mendocino has had predominantly the California variant and we’ve been notified of 2 tests positive for the UK variant and one from Brail. There have been outbreaks in Humboldt of the UK, in Shasta of the South African and in Marin the Indian variant. At this time the test results are so slow they are not actionable. Our current strategies are still effective for these variants and the best protection is prevention including vaccination.

Vaccine distribution is going well in Mendocino County with adequate supply now. All people over 12 years old are now eligible and we are working with the schools and offering rewards. Parents are being vaccinated at the same time. The larger mass vaccination events have lost their efficiency at this time. We continue to reach out to agricultural workers and other business, the homebound, and those experiencing homelessness. We are employing the School sites as well as pop up clinics in commercial areas and smaller events wherever and whenever possible. We have taken down all barriers to vaccination such as eligibility groups and identification, and we welcome Walk-in appointments. Choice of vaccine is offered when possible and safe. We have increased our messaging through social media, radio, with plans for flyers and billboards

Our Mendocino partners have joined the TPA and are getting their vaccines directly through them.

**Mendocino County shows:**

As of 5/21/21 Mendocino County has administered 80,719 Total doses. This went to 45,000 people

Those who have had at least 1 dose:

60% of people over 12 years old  
57.3% of Caucasian (compared to 58.2% in CA);  
44% of Hispanic population (compared to 40% in CA)

From an Equity perspective, those who have had at least 1 dose:

**Quartile 1 (lowest resourced) =55% (CA 59.9%)**

**Quartile 2 = 57.8% (CA =57.5%)**

**Quartile 3 =54.1% (CA= 45.7)**

**For Ages**, those who have had at least 1 dose:

**12-17                    15.5%**

**18-49                    50.2%**

**50-64                    72.9%**

**65+                        73.5%**

**Vaccine Events This Week:**

Monday 5/25 South Valley HS in AM: Pt Arena HS in PM

Tuesday 5/26 Willits High 9-3: Willits Commercial St 4-6 PM

Wednesday 5/26 Spy Rock 10-12 : Fairgrounds 5-7pm

Thursday 5/27 Orchard Av/Project HomeKey 10-11: Mendocino Presbyterian Church 4-6 PM