



Mendocino County Health & Human Services Agency

Healthy People, Healthy Communities

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



DATE: May 3, 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 overall impact

Population	COVID-19 Cases		COVID-19 Deaths	
United State (328.2 Million)	32,435,199	9.8%	577,172	.17%
California (39.5 Million)	3,643,992	9.23%	60,763	.15%
Mendocino County (86,749)	4029	4.6%	48	.05%

Mendocino County's testing positivity rate is 1.2% meeting the ranking in the yellow tier, and today's average daily positive cases in the yellow tier at 2.10%. Our county has been in the YELLOW TIER for 1 week YELLOW TIER. Currently there are 32 people isolating in their homes and 30 in Quarantine, there are no hospitalizations, and 48 people have passed away, resulting in the overall total number of cases as 4029.

The Yellow (minimal) Tier means more capacity is allowed in numerous venues with a bonus capacity in many venues when all attendees show proof of negative Covid test within 1-2 days or proof of vaccination. Saunas and Steam rooms are now open. Also there is new guidance on opening Water Parks and Day Camps.

Though earning Yellow tier status is a great accomplishment and a tribute to our citizens and partners working hard to follow the guidance and get vaccinated, I am concerned that we could become complacent at a time when more travel, holidays and gatherings are frequent and Variants in California are increasing.

Our Contact Investigation team has been following much fewer cases. There is currently an outbreak involving 4 people. In the past 7 days there were 38 cases reported. However, these came in over the weekend and with investigation this number may change, for example if some occurred out of county

Testing throughout California and in Mendocino is still low. We have received a new report of Variants in Mendocino County dating back from March 2021 back to January, 2021. This report includes 26 cases of the California variant. This is the variant that is 20% more transmissible than the native/natural variety. We are reviewing these records to see if there are any new conclusions that can be drawn. There were no more variants of interest or concern reported. But clearly this makes the threat of variants more palpable—They are here now!

Optum Serve 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 5/7 is set for Point Laytonville/Willits	Location 1 – 9:00 - 12:00 Location 2 – 2:00 – 5:00

Vaccines continue to be administered throughout Mendocino County. As of May 2, 70,921 vaccines have been recorded at the State level for Mendocino County.

This represents 55% of Mendocino residents over 16 years old have had at least one vaccine. 40% are fully vaccinated.

At least partially vaccinated are:

71% of those over 65 years old	51% of our Quartile 1 (least resourced) residents
68% of those 50-64 years old	56% of our Quartile 2 residents
45% of those 18-49 years old	53% of Quartile 3 residents
21% of those 16-18 years old	

57% of Caucasians

40% of Hispanics

In California and in Mendocino County we are continuing to see more vaccine appointments unfilled. We are doing more, smaller events throughout the county, continuing to support homebound, nursing homes, and inmates. In partnership with the schools, we have been offering vaccines to 16-18 year olds with their families. The response is not overwhelming, but many of these youngsters have been vaccinated at work and others have similar hesitancy or anti-vax attitudes as in older groups. We are developing more outreach and education focused on this group. Pfizer has applied for EUA and will probably be approved in the next few weeks. Approaches to this group are being developed including a push for pediatricians and family doctors to make them available in their offices, though that has logistical issues due to the very low temperature freezer requirement, So we may have more events at schools. As noted last week, we continue with outreach to agriculture and Hispanic communities with later hours so they do not have to take off work. Additionally, we are working with the Hopland Band of

Pomo Indians to plan a drive through clinic in Hopland and we plan to work with the Sherwood Valley Rancheria for a clinic in Willits.

The Johnson & Johnson single shot vaccine pause has been lifted while the CDC, FDA, and Western States, Scientific Review Board reviewed the data on a very small number of women from 18-48 years old who developed the blood clots. We are currently seeing very few people willing to take it. This was a small percentage of the total vaccines but was very suitable for some people. It will take some time and a lot of community education to overcome that concern.

Vaccine supplies are expected to increase this month and stabilize. All of our Mendocino County partners have signed agreements with Blue Shield for vaccine access and all but 2 of them are getting direct shipments from the state. We continue to collaborate to ensure that our community is well served.

Mendocino County is clearly moving in the right direction, community members are encouraged to continue masking, social distancing, regular hand washing and move activities outdoors so ventilation decreases transmission. We are encouraging more testing and continued vaccination, especially in light of the new reality of variants in our community.