COVID-19
Return to School Update
11/18/2021

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US COVID Data

- Total Cases: 47,244,379
  - +96,194 New Cases
- 7 Day Case Rate per 100,000: 181.2
- Total Deaths: 762,994
  - +1,479 New Deaths

Data updated 11/17/21
COVID-19 in Maricopa County

- 265 schools in open outbreak status (+27 in past week)

Data updated 11/17/21
Rates of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 population by vaccination status

From 10/30 to 11/06*, those not fully vaccinated were 3.5 times more likely to get COVID-19 than those fully vaccinated.

*These dates were calculated based on the reporting delay of COVID-19 cases.
5-11 Vaccine

- It’s Here!

Most Children and All Teens Can Get COVID-19 Vaccines

CDC recommends everyone ages 5 and older get a COVID-19 vaccine to help protect against COVID-19.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Authorized For</th>
<th>Pfizer-BioNTech</th>
<th>Moderna</th>
<th>J&amp;J / Janssen</th>
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<tr>
<td>4 years and under</td>
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<tr>
<td>5-11 years old</td>
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<tr>
<td>12-17 years old</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 years and older</td>
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</table>
Pfizer-BioNTech Vaccine

• Different presentations for 12+ and for 5-11 years old
• BOTH require 2 doses (minimum 21 days apart)
• Person is considered fully vaccinated 14 days after 2nd dose
• Earliest date for a fully vaccinated 5–11-year-old would be December 9th
  – IF child was vaccinated on 11/4 and 11/24
  – Set expectations that you will continue usual quarantine protocols for close contacts until after winter break
“Side Effects” are expected & evidence that the vaccine is working

When the body’s immune system mounts a response to a natural infection OR vaccination the result is local and/or systemic inflammation

Local inflammation includes injection site soreness, redness, swelling

Systemic inflammation includes fever, muscle aches, headache
Vaccine Side Effects

• In clinical trials, Pfizer vaccine was better tolerated in kids 5-11 than older adolescents and adults
• The stronger the immune response, the stronger the side effects
• The healthier the individual, the stronger the immune response
• Side effects are stronger after second doses because the body mounts a stronger response when it has already seen the virus
37% of parents reported side effects as reason for not wanting COVID-19 vaccine for their child

- Allergic reaction: 51.3%
- Fever: 62.3%
- Myocarditis or pericarditis: 47.9%
- Sinus venous thrombosis: 44.1%
- Headache: 43.3%
- Guillain-Barre syndrome: 41.7%
- Getting COVID-19: 40.1%
- Infertility: 39.8%
- GI issues: 36.6%
- Pain at injection site: 32.6%
- Fainting: 30.5%
Subjects Reporting Systemic Events, by Maximum Severity, Within 7 Days After Dose 1 and Dose 2 in 5 to <12 Year Olds by Baseline SARS-CoV-2 Status

- Fever: 38.0°C-38.4°C, 38.4°C-38.9°C, 38.9°C-40.0°C, >40.0°C
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Chills
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Muscle Pain
- Joint Pain

Fatigue, headache, chills, muscle pain, joint pain severity definition: Mild=no interference; Moderate=some interference; Severe=prevents daily activity; Grade 4=ER visit or hospitalization

Vomiting severity definition: Mild=1-2 times in 24h; Moderate=3-5 times in 24h; Severe=requires IV hydration; Grade 4=ER visit or hospitalization

Diarrhea severity definition: Mild=2-3 times in 24h; Moderate=4-5 times in 24h; Severe=6 or more times in 24h; Grade 4=ER visit or hospitalization

Dose 1 Positive N=199, Negative N=2062; Dose 2: Positive N=199, Negative N=2047

CC-13
Vaccine Side Effect Policy

• Same consideration for kids 5-11 as for adolescents and adults
• Individuals who are vaccinated against SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) and develop post-vaccine side effects consistent with COVID-19 vaccination can return to school without viral testing if:
  – They feel well enough and are willing to attend school
  – They are afebrile*
  – Their side effects are limited to those associated with COVID-19 vaccination and not COVID-19 disease (cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, or change in smell or taste)
• If an individual’s COVID-19 vaccination side effects persist for more than 2 days from onset to resolution and exceed 72 hours from vaccination, they should be excluded from school and viral testing should be considered.

*Individuals with fever measured as 38°C or 100.4°F or higher should be excluded from work and viral testing should be considered if the fever persists for more than 2 days.
Vaccine Side Effect Policy

Day 1

Day 2

Side effects ≤ 48 hours

Day 3

72 Hours
5-11 Vaccine

There are three main ways you can get your child their COVID-19 vaccine:

1. School Events: Vaccines may be available through school events.
2. Community Events: Maricopa County Department of Public Health is offering children’s COVID-19 vaccines at most community events. See a list of community events at www.Maricopa.gov/COVID19VaccineLocations
3. Healthcare Providers’ Offices: Vaccines may be available through your child’s healthcare provider.
   • See if your child’s healthcare provider is listed as a vaccinating provider at https://www.azdhs.gov/covid19/vaccines/index.php#find-vaccines
   • If not, you can find other providers, including pharmacies, that are offering vaccines to the public.
   • You can also contact the Public Health CARES Team at (602) 506-6767 for help scheduling a vaccine appointment.
COVID-19 VACCINES FOR KIDS AGES 5-11

The first COVID-19 vaccine authorized for kids ages 5-11 is available! Vaccines are the most effective tool we have to keep COVID-19 from spreading and to keep kids in the classroom.

3 WAYS TO GET YOUR CHILD VACCINATED

1. SCHOOL EVENTS
   Vaccines may be available through school events. Contact your school district for any events planned by the district or nearby districts.

2. COMMUNITY EVENTS
   Maricopa County Department of Public Health is offering children’s COVID-19 vaccines at most community events. See a list of community events at Maricopa.gov/COVID19VaccinesLocations.

3. HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS’ OFFICES
   Vaccines may be available through your child’s healthcare provider.
   - See if your child’s healthcare provider is listed as a vaccinating provider at Maricopa.gov/COVID19VaccineLocations.
   - That page also lists other providers that are offering vaccines to the public.
   - You can also contact the Public Health CARES Team at (602) 506-6767 for help scheduling a vaccine appointment.

THINGS TO KNOW

- COVID-19 vaccines are safe, effective, and free—regardless of insurance or citizenship status.
- Some providers may require appointments. Some may take walk-ins.
- Everyone who goes to a vaccine provider or event is strongly encouraged to wear a mask for their visit.
- Some providers may have paperwork available you can fill out ahead of time to reduce your waiting time.
- Need accommodations or help setting an appointment at a community event? Call the Public Health CARES Team at (602) 506-6767.
- Have questions about an event? Call the provider or organizer for details.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. WILL CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS BE GIVEN PRIORITY?
   When COVID-19 vaccines first rolled out for adults, there was not enough supply for everyone who wanted one, so they were given based on priority and risks. Now, we have enough supply of adult vaccines and children’s vaccines, so all children ages 5 and older are now eligible to get a COVID-19 vaccine.

2. WHAT DOES A CHILD NEED TO BE FULLY IMMUNIZED?
   Children will need two doses of the Pfizer vaccine, at least 21 days apart. They will be considered fully protected two weeks after their second dose. When a child is fully immunized, they do not have to quarantine after contact with a person with COVID-19.

3. WHERE SHOULD MY CHILD GET VACCINATED?
   That is up to you. All events are staffed by qualified vaccine providers who are experienced at giving vaccines. You may want to consider going to your child’s healthcare provider if you have specific questions about your child’s health, if your child needs other vaccines, or if your child is overdue on other screenings.

4. WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS FOR CHILDREN?
   Similar to adults, children may experience side effects such as fever, body aches, and chills in the first few days after getting their vaccine. These are all normal, safe signs that the body is responding to the vaccine and activating an immune response that will protect them if they are exposed to the real virus.

5. WHICH VACCINES CAN CHILDREN GET? ARE THEY FULLY APPROVED?
   The Pfizer vaccine is the only one that has been granted an emergency use authorization (EUA) for children ages 5-11. There are more steps before full approval. Other vaccine manufacturers have children’s vaccines in clinical trials, but only Pfizer is currently authorized for this age group.

Still have questions? Get more questions answered at Maricopa.gov/COVID19VaccineFacts or call (602) 506-6767 to speak to Maricopa County Public Health.
Mitigations – Vaccine is one of many layers

- Localities should monitor **multiple factors** to guide decisions on the level of layered prevention strategies (e.g., physical distancing, screening testing, masking).
  - Level of community transmission of COVID-19.
  - COVID-19 vaccination coverage in the community and among students, teachers, and staff.
  - Strain on health system capacity for the community.
  - Use of a frequent SARS-CoV-2 screening testing program for students, teachers, and staff who are not fully vaccinated. Testing provides an important layer of prevention, particularly in areas with substantial to high community transmission levels.
  - COVID-19 outbreaks or increasing trends in the school or surrounding community.
  - Ages of children served by K-12 schools and the associated social and behavioral factors that may affect risk of transmission and the feasibility of different prevention strategies.
Maricopa County is in **High Transmission** at 307 cases/100,000

Due to the circulating and highly contagious Delta variant, CDC and MCDPH recommend universal indoor masking by all students (age 2 and older), staff, teachers, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status.
School Health Personnel – Vaccine Tracking

• COVID vaccine is not an AZ-mandated vaccine
• Schools can request, but not require, proof of vaccine
• If proof is not provided, schools may assume the student or staff person is not fully vaccinated for purposes of quarantine protocols
  – Follow or create a policy for how your school will handle this
• Check your ASIIS user agreements to determine if you have user permissions to verify vaccination status in ASIIS
Continue quarantine protocols

- MCDPH is following CDC guidelines and CDC does not currently recommend a test-to-stay policy in lieu of quarantine.

- Considerations regarding the appropriate environment for test-to-stay policies including **community transmission**, **adherence to masking** and **surveillance or screening testing**, are also important and will accompany any future recommendations for quarantine alternatives.

- Leadership will be scheduling meetings with the Maricopa County superintendents after Thanksgiving to discuss our efforts to evaluate a Masked Test-to-Stay alternative to CDC recommended home quarantine for unvaccinated close contacts of COVID-19 cases in schools
School Support Emergency Response Staffing

• Contracted with Insight Global to onboard temporary School Support Staff

School Staffing Priority Matrix

1. Prioritizes underserved populations
2. Categorizes direct impact to COVID-19 response

1. Base (static) Score
   • Title 1
   • Staff : Student Ratio
   • % Minority
   • Rural vs Urban

2. Status (variable) Score
   • Outbreak status (school specific)
   • Vaccination status (zip code specific)
   • % positivity status (zip code specific)

https://bit.ly/MaricopaSchoolStaff

11/18/2021
School Staffing Assistance Request Form
School PPE, Cloth mask, Disinfectant & Testing Requests

- To request Hand Sanitizer, Cleaning Supplies, PPE, Testing supplies, etc... fill out a request at [https://ppe.maricopa.gov/](https://ppe.maricopa.gov/)
Check for updates and FAQs!

• Email us:
  • COVID19Vaccine@maricopa.gov
  • SchoolHealth@maricopa.gov

• Website https://www.maricopa.gov/5460/Coronavirus-Disease-2019
  https://www.maricopa.gov/5493/K-12-Schools-and-Childcare-Facilities

- CDC Recommends Vaccination for Kids 5-11 Vaccination with the Pfizer pediatric COVID-19 vaccine for children 5-11 was approved Nov. 2 following thorough review by the CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices’ (ACIP). Visit our Vaccine Locations page for updates Wednesday on vaccine events for children.
- Booster Doses Boosters have now been authorized for Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson and Johnson vaccines. Your booster dose may be either the same type of COVID-19 vaccine for your booster or a different COVID-19 vaccine. Learn more.
- Looking for COVID-19 vaccine? Search for locations near you using our new vaccine finder map. Find vaccine.
- How long to stay home if sick with COVID-19: Check out our home isolation decision-maker tool to help you know when it’s safe to be around others.
- COVID-19 text alerts: Received a text from Public Health after testing positive for COVID-19? Visit this page for information.
- Got questions? Maricopa CARES can help! For questions related to COVID-19, including help needed locating free testing and vaccine events in Maricopa County, please call 602-506-6767 to speak with an operator from our CARES Team.
Flu 2021

• 2020-2021 flu season was Sept 27 2020 – Oct 2 2021
  – Total 819 cases
  – Typical 10,000-20,000

• 2021-2022 flu season
  – Season thru 11/13
    • 129 cases confirmed statewide
  – 11/7 – 11/13
    • 31 lab-confirmed cases

How widespread is the flu in Arizona right now?

https://www.maricopa.gov/1872/Influenza-RSV
Next webinar – December 2nd

- No webinar next week - Thanksgiving Day

Email SchoolHealth@maricopa.gov with your burning questions!
What are the best ways to stop the spread?

• Get vaccinated if you are eligible
• Wear a face mask in public indoor settings