

COVID-19 WATCH

Weekly Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Surveillance Report



Tuesday, October 27, 2020

Data through week ending 10/24/2020

Summary of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases, San Diego County Residents

Cases

54,583

Median Age

35

Range 0-102

Deaths

870

Median Age

77

Range 23-102

Outbreaks

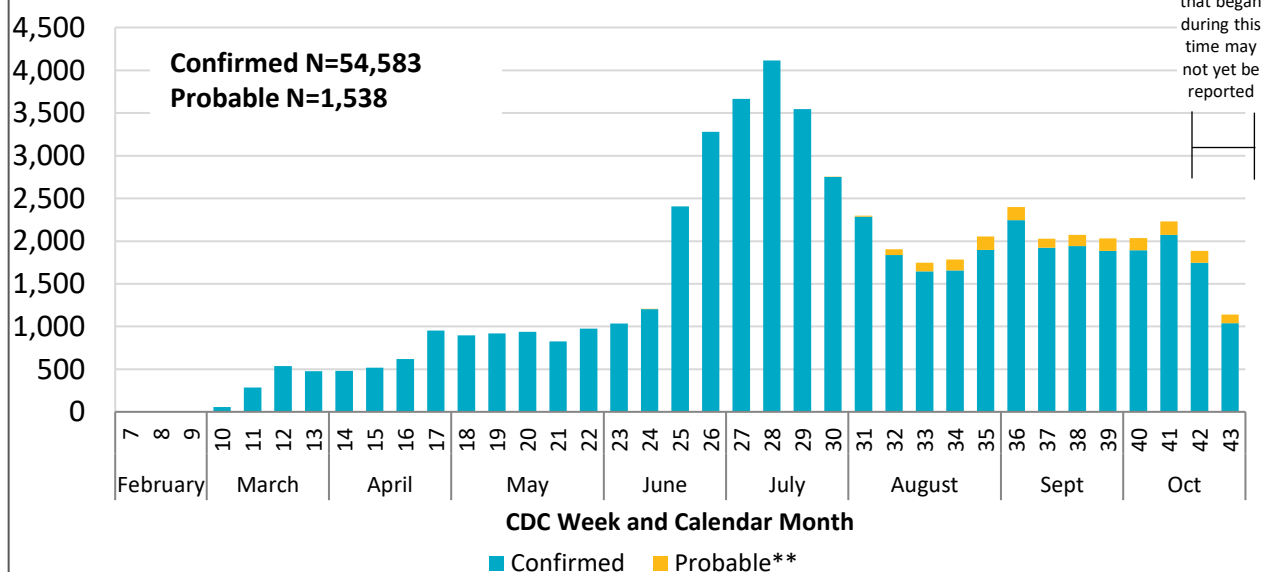
642

Percentage in
Congregate
Settings

32%

COVID-19 Confirmed Cases by Onset* Week

Figure 1. COVID-19 Confirmed and Probable Cases by Week of Illness Onset*, San Diego County Residents, N=56,121



*When onset date is unavailable, specimen collection date, date of death, or date reported is used instead.

**Probable cases are antigen positive tests received since August 1, 2020.

Epidemiology and Immunization Services Branch

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Table 1. COVID-19 Cases and Deaths

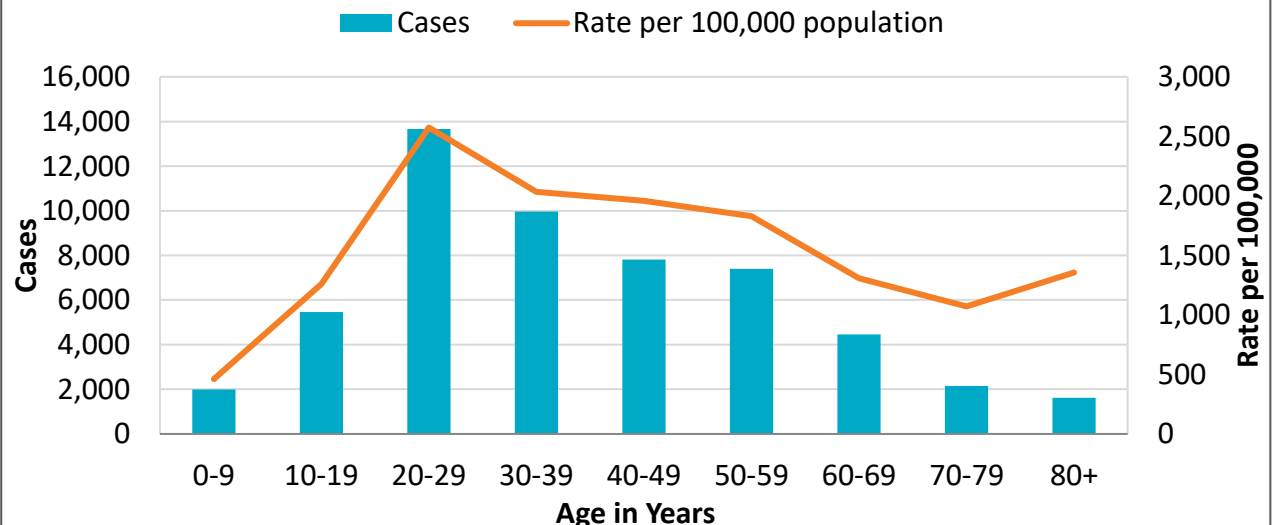
Summary of San Diego County COVID-19 Cases and Deaths			
Confirmed cases	54,583	Deaths	870
Hospitalizations	3,850 (7%)	Underlying Conditions	829 (95%)
Illness onset date range*	2/14/2020-10/24/2020	Death date range	3/21/2020-10/23/2020
Median age	35 years	Median age	77 years
Age range	0-102 years	Age range	23-102 years
Male	26,462 (49%)	Male	497 (57%)
Female	27,980 (51%)	Female	373 (43%)
Healthcare workers	3,963 (7%)	Case Fatality Ratio	1.6%
Summary of Non-County Resident COVID-19 Cases			
Confirmed cases	4,479	Hospitalizations	519 (12%)

*When onset date is unavailable, specimen collection date, date of death, or date reported is used instead.

Note: percentage hospitalized and healthcare workers are calculated based on the total number of cases; information may be unknown in some cases.

Demographic Summary of COVID-19 Cases

Figure 2. COVID-19 Cases by Age Group
San Diego County Residents, N=54,583



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Demographic Summary of COVID-19 Cases (continued)

Figure 3. COVID-19 Cases by Sex and Age Group
San Diego County Residents, N=54,583

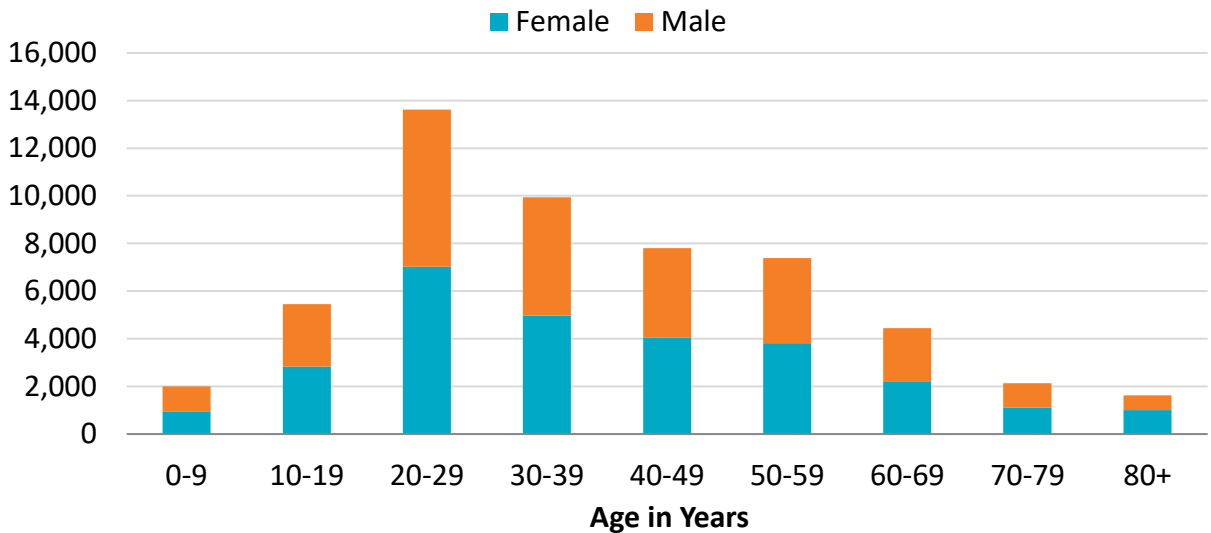
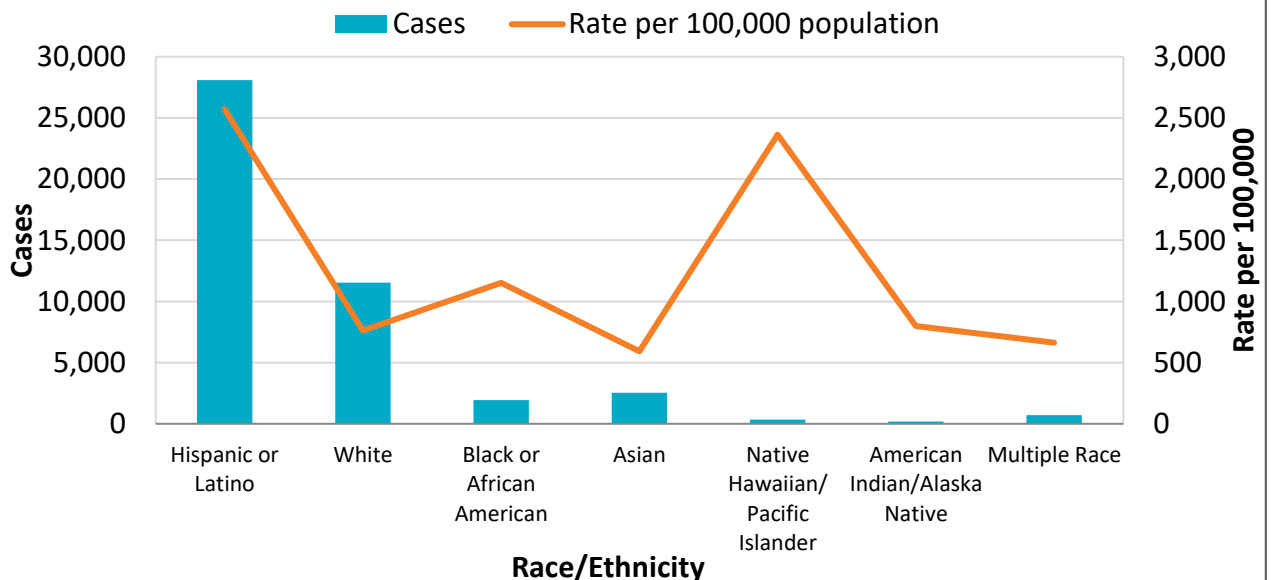


Figure 4. COVID-19 Cases by Race/Ethnicity
San Diego County Residents, N=45,314*



*Race and ethnicity is unknown for 9,269 cases.

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COVID-19 Case, Hospitalization, and Death Rates by Race and Ethnicity

Figure 5. Age-Adjusted Rates of COVID-19 Cases by Race/Ethnicity, San Diego County Residents

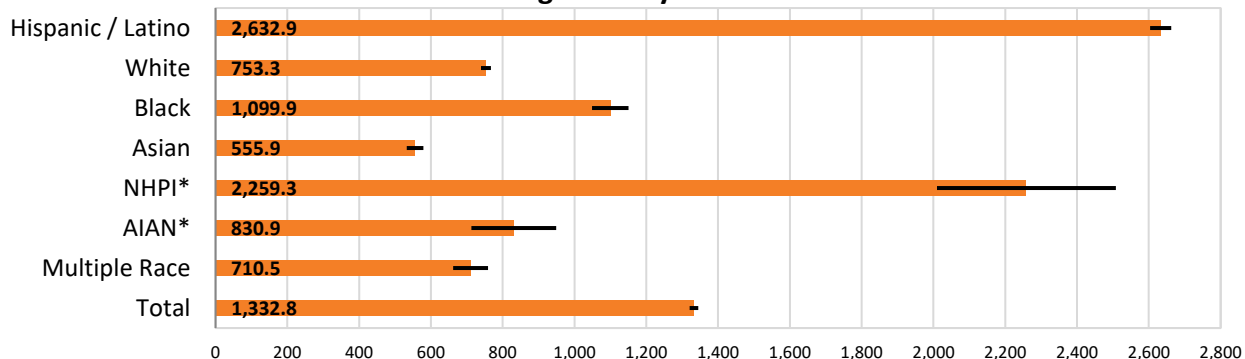


Figure 6. Age-Adjusted Rates of COVID-19 Hospitalizations by Race/Ethnicity, San Diego County Residents

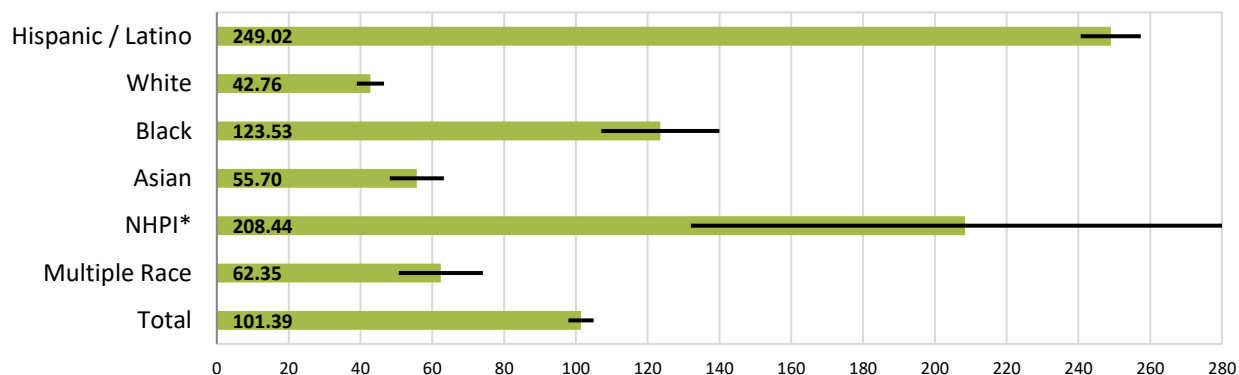
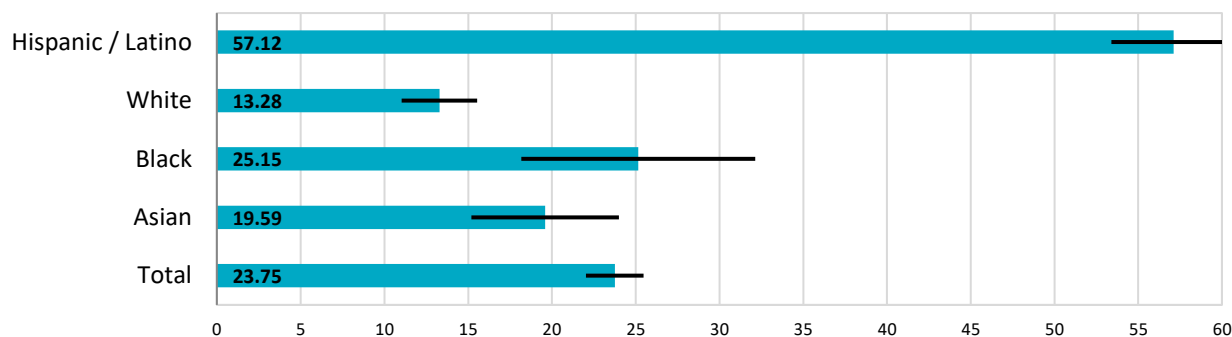


Figure 7. Age-Adjusted Rates of COVID-19 Deaths by Race/Ethnicity, San Diego County Residents



The black lines represent the 95% confidence intervals (error bars). Rates are not calculated for less than 20 events.

*NHPI=Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, AIAN=American Indian/Alaska Native.

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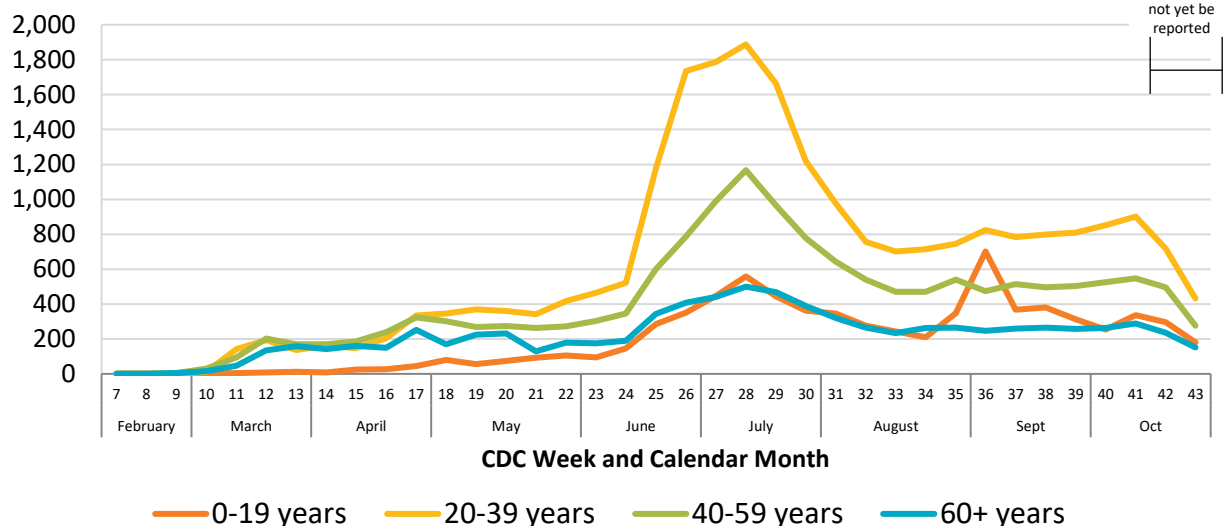
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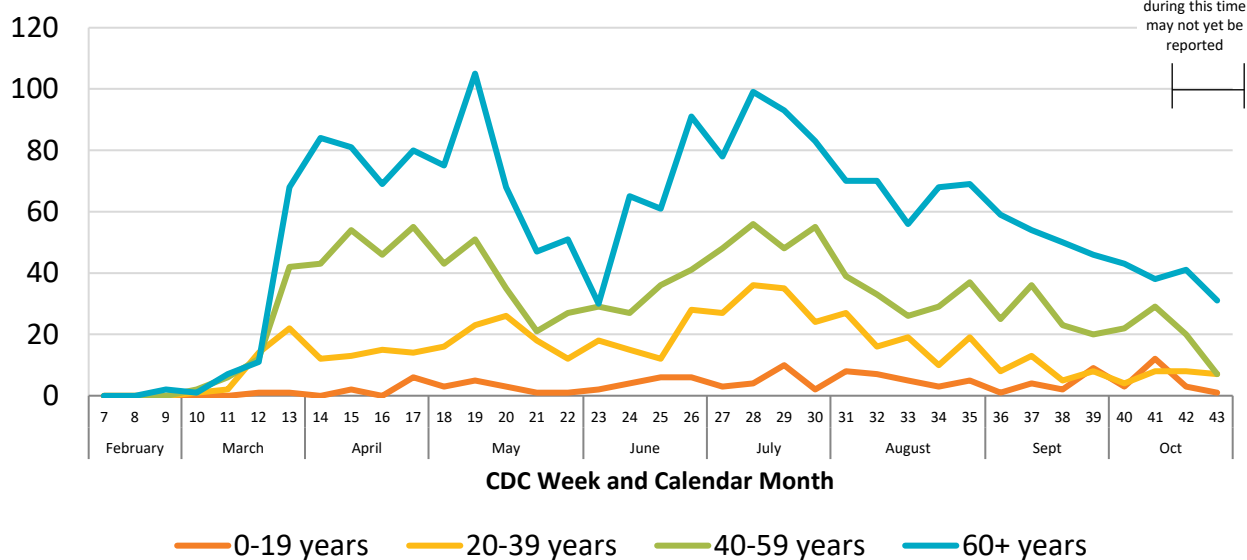
COVID-19 Cases and Hospitalizations by Age and Week

Figure 8. COVID-19 Confirmed Cases by Age Group and Week of Illness Onset*, San Diego County Residents, N=54,583



*When onset date is unavailable, specimen collection date, date of death, or date reported is used instead.

Figure 9. COVID-19 Hospitalizations by Age Group and Week of Hospital Admission, San Diego County Residents, N=3,850*



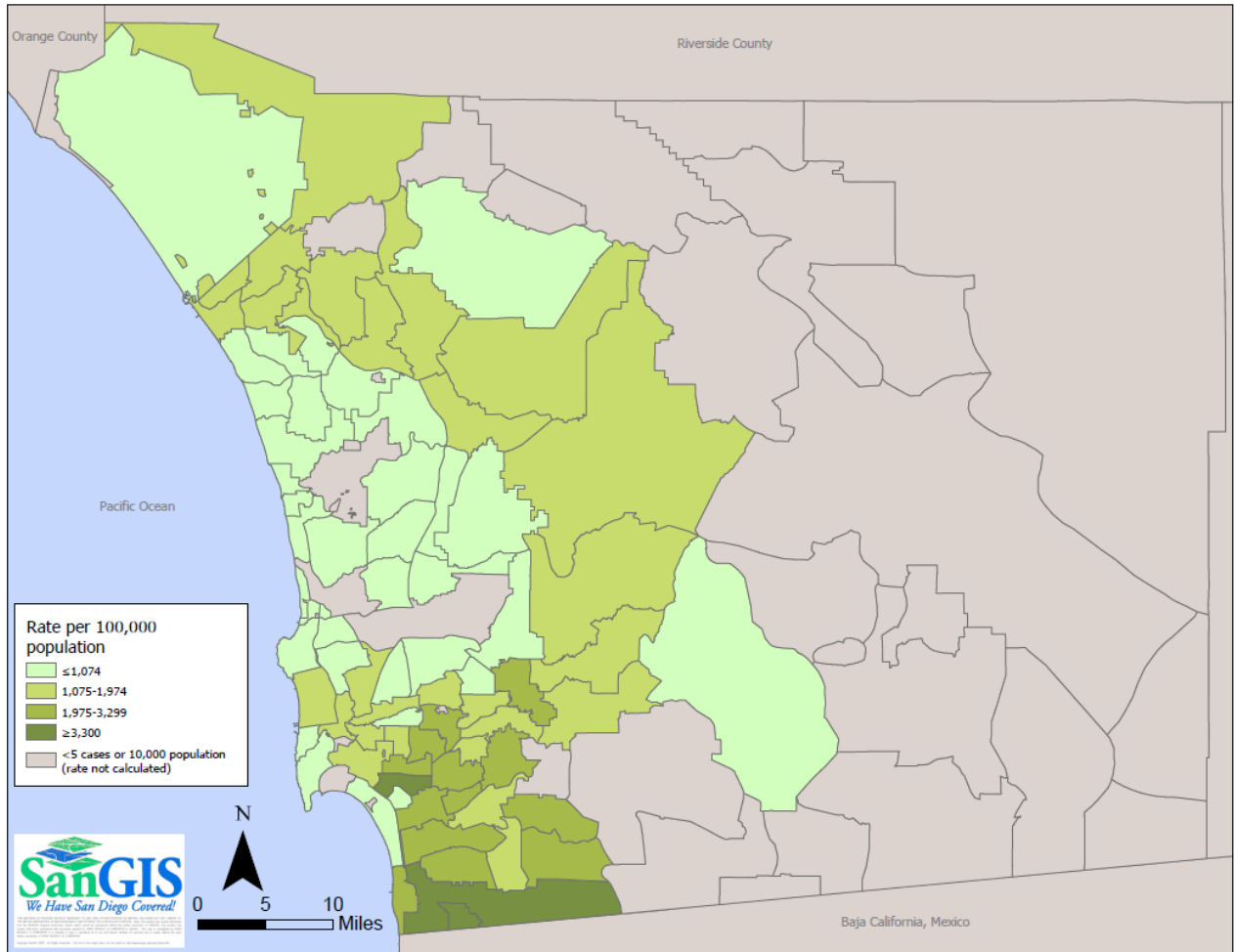
*Admit date and age are unknown for some hospitalizations.

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COVID-19 Cases by Geography

**Figure 10. Cumulative COVID-19 Rates by Zip Code of Residence,
San Diego County
(Countywide Rate = 1,629 per 100,000 Population)**



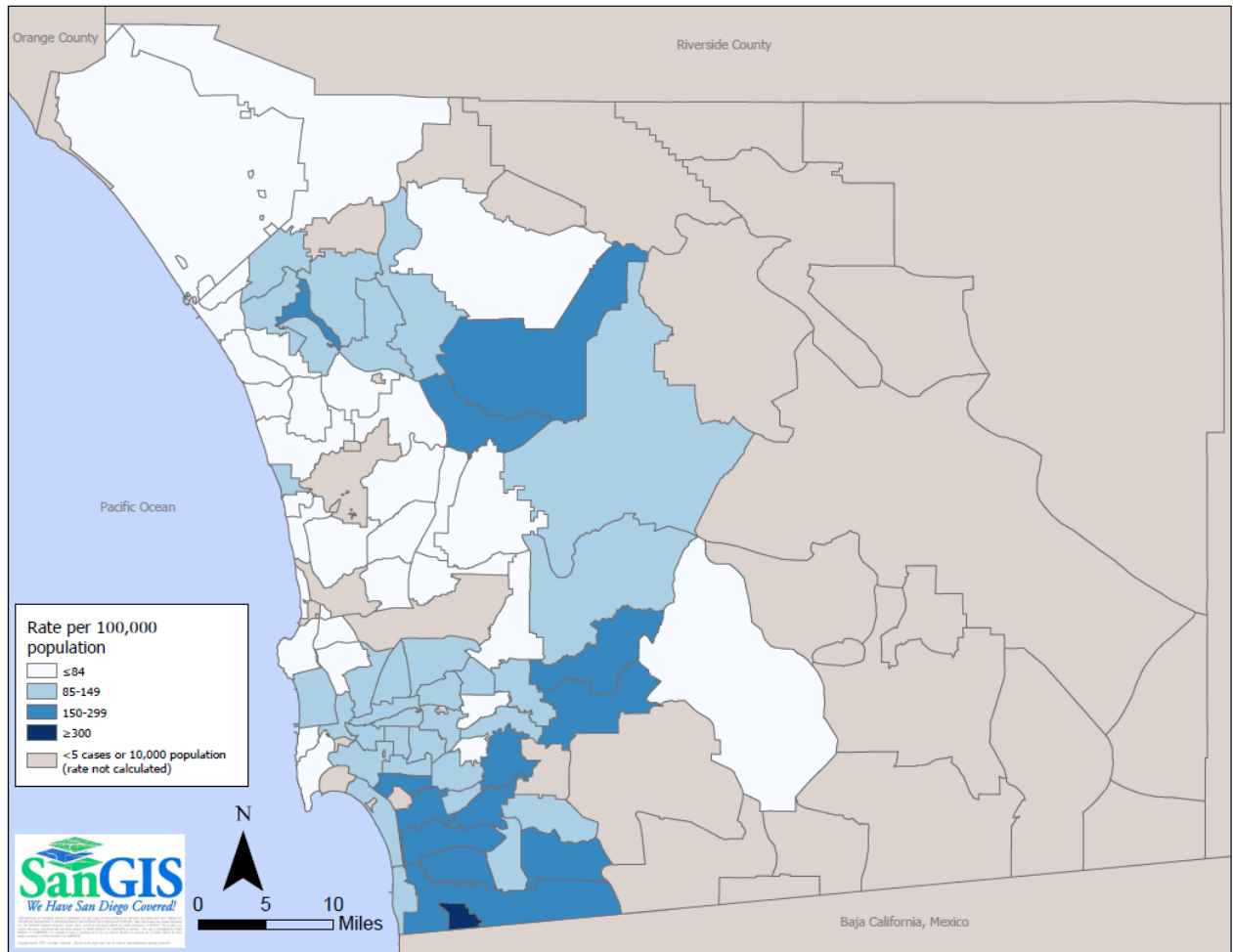
Rates calculated using 2019 population estimates from the San Diego Association of Governments. Rates not calculated for counts under 5 cases or populations less than 10,000. Zip code is zip code of residence, which may not be location of exposure. Case [counts and rates](#) for each zip code are updated routinely on the County of San Diego COVID-19 website.

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COVID-19 Cases by Geography (continued)

**Figure 11. COVID-19 Rates by Zip Code of Residence, 10/11/2020-10/24/2020,
San Diego County
(Countywide Rate = 120 per 100,000 Population)**



Rates calculated using 2019 population estimates from the San Diego Association of Governments. Rates not calculated for counts under 5 cases or populations less than 10,000. Zip code is zip code of residence, which may not be location of exposure. Case [counts and rates](#) for each zip code are updated routinely on the County of San Diego COVID-19 website.

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Summary of COVID-19-associated Deaths

Figure 12. COVID-19 Deaths by Week of Death
San Diego County Residents, N=870

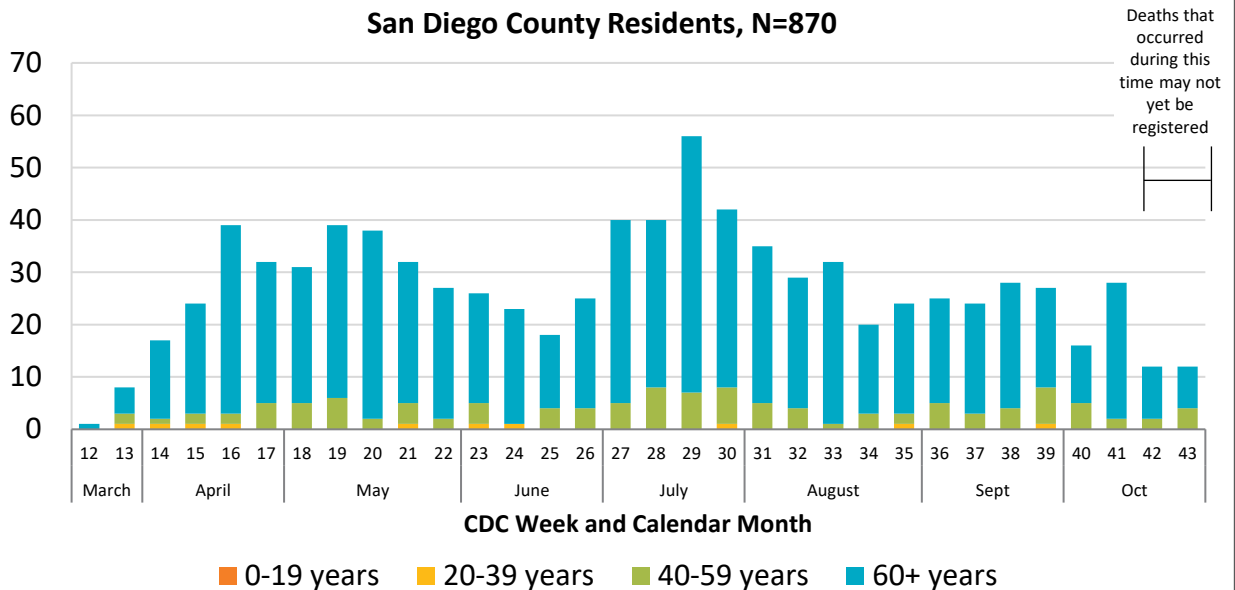
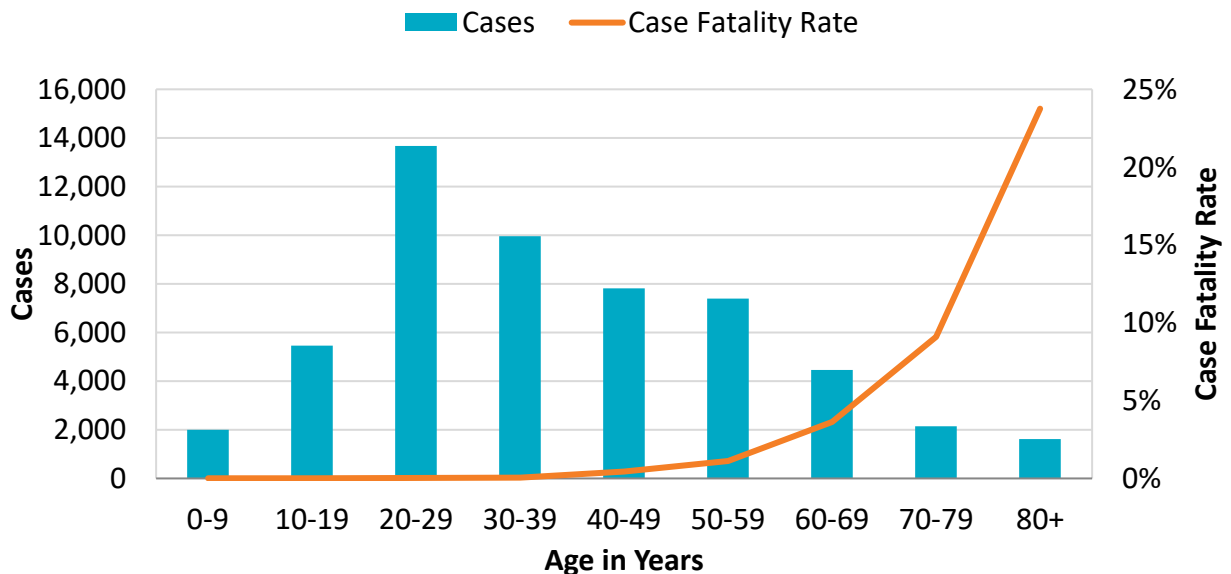


Figure 13. COVID-19 Cases and Case Fatality Rate
San Diego County Residents

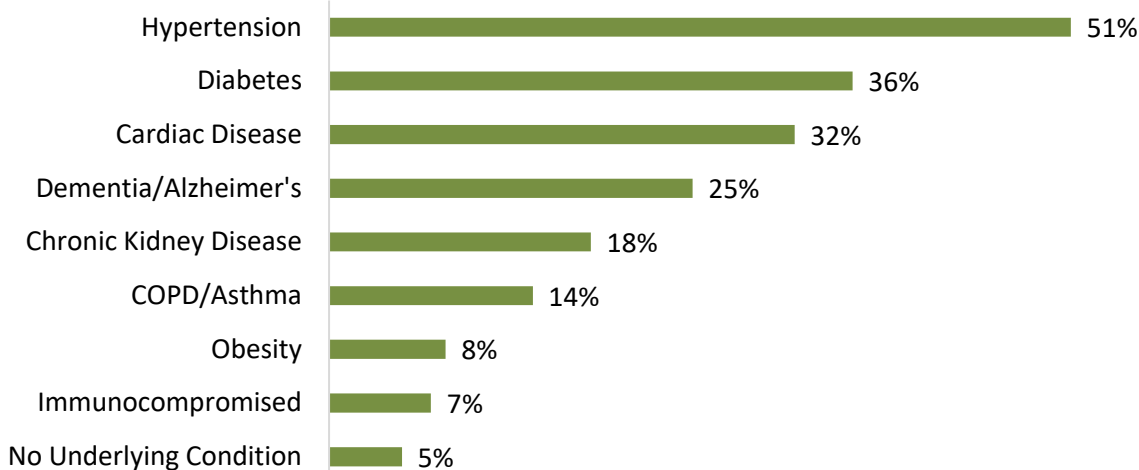


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Summary of COVID-19-associated Deaths (continued)

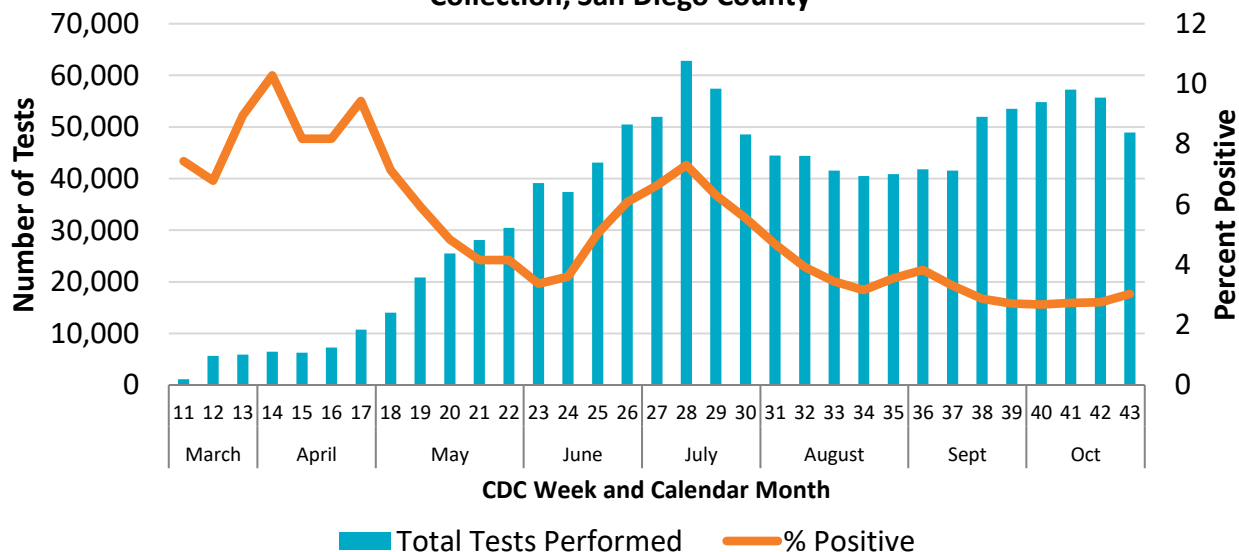
Figure 14. Common Underlying Conditions, COVID-associated Deaths



Persons may have more than one underlying condition. These data are abstracted from death certificates and available medical records and may not reflect a complete list of underlying conditions for each person.

COVID-19 Laboratory Test Positivity Rate

Figure 15. COVID-19 Testing Volume and Positivity by Week of Specimen Collection, San Diego County



Includes PCR tests performed by COSD Public Health, hospital, and reference laboratories and reported via Electronic Laboratory Reporting (ELR) and line lists. Excludes invalid, indeterminate, and unsatisfactory results.

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COVID-19 Potential Exposure Settings

Table 2. COVID-19 Potential Exposure Settings, San Diego County Residents

COVID-19 Case Summary	Last 2 Weeks (10/11 – 10/24)		Cumulative (6/5 – 10/24)	
Total Positives	4,028		46,344	
Number Interviewed	2,906		35,636	
Selected Characteristics among those with Completed Interviews	Count	%	Count	%
Potential Exposure Settings*				
At least one potential exposure setting	1,756	60.4%	19,209	53.9%
Bars and Restaurants	288	9.9%	3,256	9.1%
Beach	7	0.2%	205	0.6%
Casinos	22	0.8%	312	0.9%
Group Gathering	105	3.6%	1,532	4.3%
Gyms	13	0.4%	132	0.4%
Hair Salon or Barber	71	2.4%	884	2.5%
Places of Worship	65	2.2%	566	1.6%
Protest	0	0.0%	48	0.1%
Retail	264	9.1%	3,163	8.9%
Work	982	33.8%	10,849	30.4%
Other	148	5.1%	1,421	4.0%
No potential exposure setting reported	1,150	39.6%	16,427	46.1%
Average number of settings visited	1.7		1.7	
Range of settings visited	1-12		1-24	
Household Exposure**	1,066	36.7%	11,913	33.4%
Any Travel-related Exposure	650	22.4%	5,935	16.7%
Visited Mexico	288	9.9%	2,327	6.5%
Any School-related Exposure	126	4.3%	1,054	3.0%
K-12 schools	64	2.2%	247	0.7%

*Potential exposure settings are defined as indoor or outdoor locations in which cases came within 6 feet of anyone who was not a household member for at least 15 minutes during the 2-14 days prior to symptom onset, even if the case wore a mask or facial covering. Potential exposure settings are places case-patients visited during their exposure period, not confirmed sources of infection. Persons may have visited more than one location.

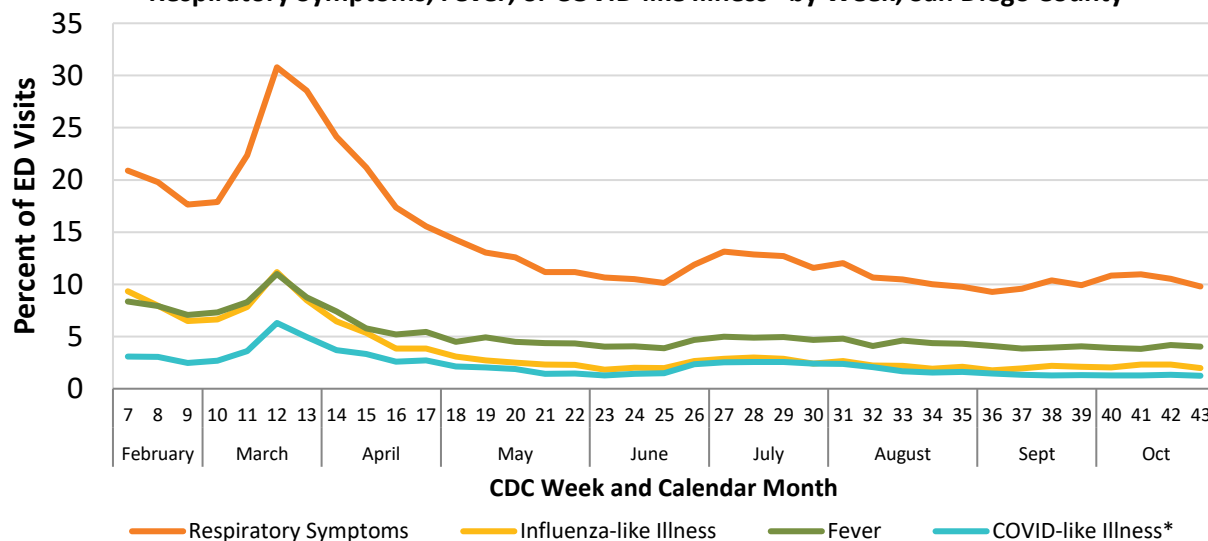
**Household exposures may have occurred outside the 2-14 days prior to symptom onset.

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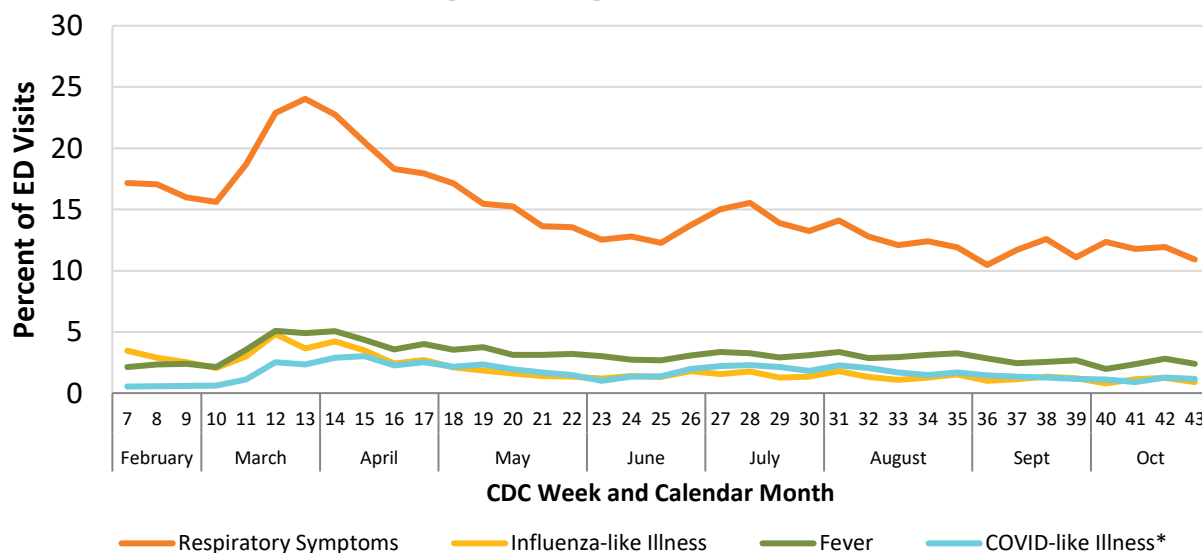
Emergency Department Data

Figure 16. Percent of Emergency Department Visit Chief Complaints for ILI, Respiratory Symptoms, Fever, or COVID-like Illness* by Week, San Diego County



Categories are not mutually exclusive. *COVID-like Illness includes fever and cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing OR coronavirus diagnostic codes.

Figure 17. Percent of Emergency Department Visit Chief Complaints for ILI, Respiratory Symptoms, Fever, or COVID-like Illness* by Week, San Diego County
Among Patients Age 60 Years or Older



Categories are not mutually exclusive. *COVID-like Illness includes fever and cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing OR coronavirus diagnostic codes.

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COVID-19 Watch Data Sources

The following sources of data are used to produce this report:

- **COVID-19 case reports:** Medical providers and laboratories report individual cases of PCR-confirmed COVID-19 via fax or electronic laboratory reporting (ELR) to the County of San Diego Epidemiology Unit.
- **COVID-19 deaths:** The County of San Diego requests that all deaths related to COVID-19 be reported for surveillance purposes. Medical facilities may report these deaths directly to the Epidemiology Unit or they may be identified by the Office of Vital Records through death certificate registration. The Epidemiology Unit compiles the data, and only reports deaths that can be verified by a death certificate.
- **Emergency Department Chief Complaint Data:** Electronic emergency department data are reported to the Epidemiology Unit daily. The number of respiratory chief complaints and the number of total emergency department visits are used to calculate percentages for all respiratory-related visits and visits specific to influenza-like illness, fever, and COVID.
- **COVID-19 outbreaks:**
 - Skilled Nursing Facilities: at least one case of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 in a resident.
 - Non-SNF Institution/Congregate Settings: at least one case of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 in the setting of ≥ 2 cases of acute illness compatible with COVID-19 in residents or staff members of residential congregate settings with onset within a 14-day period.
 - Community settings: three or more laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases in different households in a cluster of 2 or more acute illnesses compatible with COVID-19** with onset within a 14-day period.
- **SANDAG population estimates, vintage 2019:** Rates are calculated using 2019 population estimates from the San Diego Association of Governments. Rates are not calculated for counts under five cases.

The purpose of the weekly **COVID-19 Watch** is to summarize current COVID-19 surveillance in San Diego County.

Data are preliminary and may change due to delayed reporting and additional information obtained during investigations.