

COVID-19 is a disease caused by a new strain of coronavirus first identified in 2019. COVID-19 is mainly transmitted through close proximity to an infected individual, and it is occasionally transmitted through contact with an infected surface. Symptoms typically appear 2-14 days after infection and include fever, chills, coughing, shortness of breath, headache, muscle aches, vomiting or diarrhea, and loss of taste or smell. While some infected individuals experience no symptoms, cases can range from mild incidents to severe illness requiring hospitalization or even death. This factsheet summarizes the effect COVID-19 had on the health of Sacramento County residents in 2020.

Summary of County trends

COVID-19 case and death rates are shown in Figures 1 and 2, respectively. County case and death rates were initially stable at the start of the year but surged mid-year during the summer. Rates gradually decreased but peaked at the end of the year. COVID-19 trends in the County and in California overall were fairly similar.

Sacramento County Public Health COVID-19 Response

Sacramento County Public Health's (SCPH) mission during the COVID-19 pandemic is to identify, contain, later mitigate cases of COVID-19 in the County. SCPH activated the COVID-19 Public Health Department Operations Center on January 15, 2020 to respond to the pandemic.

SCPH Health Officer Dr. Olivia Kasirye issued a shelter-in-place order for the County on March 19, 2020. The order required County residents to only leave their homes for essential activities, such as buying groceries. The order also required at least six feet of distance between individuals from different households when in public.

SCPH closely monitors lab reports and hospital cases and investigates cases to quickly identify other potential cases. SCPH provides community testing and coordinates vaccination roll-out.

Data Sources: SCPH Epidemiology Unit and California Department of Public Health

Figure 1. Confirmed COVID cases per 100,000 people in 2020

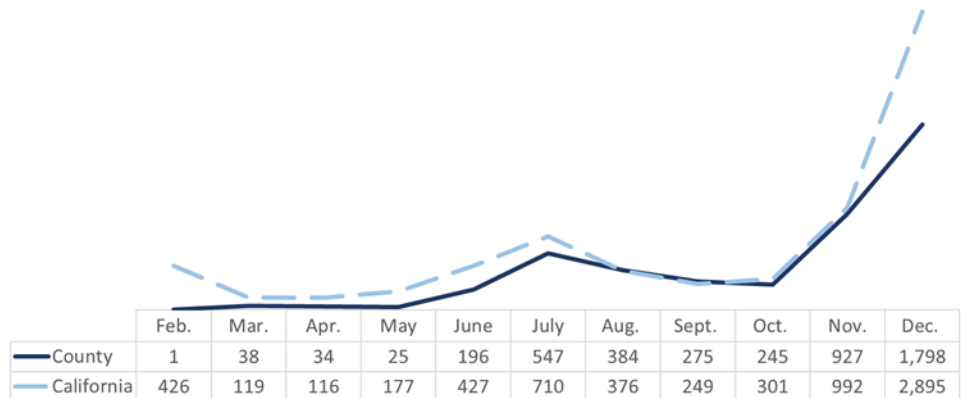
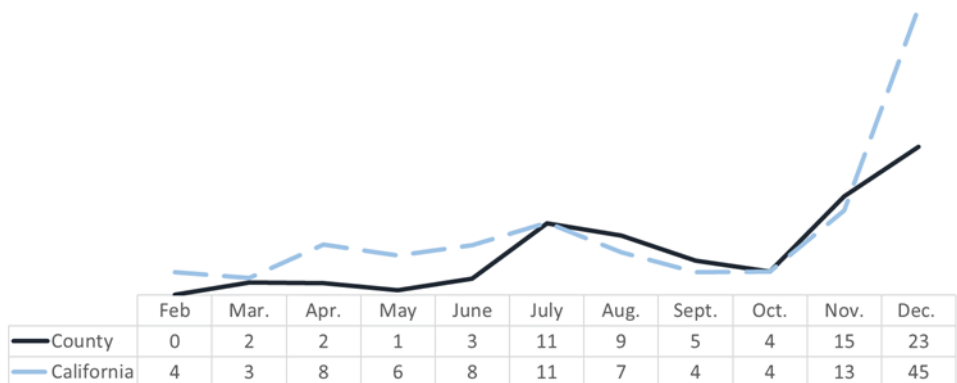


Figure 2. COVID-related deaths per 100,000 people in 2020



2020 Total

970,623 tests
6.8% tested positive
69,830 confirmed cases
3,578 hospitalizations
1,176 deaths