

NWABSD Board Worksession

Tuesday, March 22, 2022 1:30 PM

Microsoft Teams, 744 Third Ave., Kotzebue, AK 99752

1. III. Board Self-Evaluation Update	Presenter: Timi Tullis, AASB
2. IV. Strategic Plan Update	Presenter: Jen Jarvis Associates
3. V. COVID-19 Update/ Mitigation Plan	Presenter: Amy Eakin, Director of Technology
4. VI. Ambler Access Project	Presenter: Margaret Hansen, President
5. VII. NWALT 2022 Priorities	Presenter: Margaret Hansen, President
6. VIII. NWAB Regional Transportation Planning Organization	Presenter: Margaret Hansen, President
7. IX. Board Committee Meeting Reports	Presenter: Board Members/ Staff
8. XI. Advisory School Council Minutes	Presenter: Terri Walker, Superintendent

From: Timi Tullis <ttullis@asb.org>
Date: Saturday, February 12, 2022 at 4:01 PM
To: Terri Walker <twalker@nwarctic.org>
Subject: Board Self Assessment

Hello Terri,
Thanks for asking for information on leading the board through a board self assessment.

Effective, efficient, and ethical School Board operations are an integral part of creating a successful educational program. In order to measure progress towards meeting board standards and the Boards stated priorities and self-improvement areas, the School Board will annual schedule a time and place at which all of its members may participate in a formal self-assessment.

The School Board shall be evaluated as a **whole and not as individuals**. The assessment will focus on the internal operations and performance of the school board. School Board members shall develop priorities (aligned with the Strategic Plan) and a self-improvement plan for the coming year, after reviewing the assessment.

Each School Board member will complete the self-assessment instrument independently. The evaluation will be based on the resulting composite picture of the School Boards strengths and weaknesses. The School Board will discuss the tabulated results as a group.

The School Board typically invites the Superintendent or designee or others to participate in the evaluation and suggest specific criteria to measure School Board success in meeting board standards, and priorities as a governing body.

The School Board Self-Assessment Process

- All board members will participate in the evaluation process.
- Prior to the evaluation meeting, all board members will complete the assessment instrument. (AASB creates an on line form that members can fill out, OR if necessary can send in a word document and AASB will input the data for members who can't do an on line survey).
 - AASB will tabulate all the results and bring the report to the board for the workshop.

The daily rate for AASB members is \$1200/day plus travel costs. This includes all the prep and a post meeting report.

Please let me know if there is anything else I can share with you.

Smiles, timi

Timi C Tullis
Associate Executive Director

Association of Alaska School Boards
Advocates for Alaska's Youth

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NWABSD



COVID Update & Mitigation Plan

03/21/2022

Leading the Way

Serving the communities of:

Ambler • Buckland • Deering • Kiana • Kivalina • Kobuk • Kotzebue • Noatak • Noorvik • Selawik • Shungnak

COVID-19 Update & Mitigation Plan



Plan Requirements:

1. Develop and make publicly available
2. Periodically review and revise through 9/2023
 - ✓ No less frequently than every 6 months
3. Seek public input
4. Utilize up-to-date guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
5. Include district adopted for each mitigation strategy listed

COVID-19 Update & Mitigation Plan



Plan Components:

1. Masks
2. Physical Distancing
3. Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette
4. Cleaning and Maintaining Healthy Facilities
5. Contact Tracing
6. Diagnostic and Screening Testing
7. Efforts to Provide Vaccinations
8. Appropriate Accommodations for Children with Disabilities
9. Continuity of Services



COVID-19 Update & Mitigation Plan



1. Masks

- ✓ Supplied to schools and departments as needed
- ✓ Ordered and shipped to site through the Assistant Superintendents office
- ✓ Accommodations are made per federal law
- ❖ *CDC no longer recommends masking when Community Levels are Low and Medium. The NWABSD is currently working with the NWAB and Maniilaq on this guidance.*
- ❖ <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>



COVID-19 Update & Mitigation Plan



2. Physical Distancing

- ✓ Desk shield use during mealtimes only
- ✓ Minimum distance is 3ft; strive for 6ft
- ✓ Cohorting or podding is being used to reduce the number of close contacts per exposure

COVID-19 Update & Mitigation Plan



3. Handwashing & Respiratory Etiquette

- ✓ Taught and reinforced in all schools



4. Cleaning & Maintaining Healthy Facilities

- ✓ Schools have regular cleaning schedules
- ✓ Contaminated areas are closed off and then deep cleaned
- ✓ Air filters provided to areas in need



COVID-19 Update & Mitigation Plan



5. Contact Tracing

- ✓ Schools work with families and student/staff schedules to contact trace within our buildings
- ✓ Parents and/or staff of possible exposed students are notified of that exposure
- ✓ All parents/staff are notified of the incident
- ✓ Students and staff that are up to date on vaccinations remain out of quarantine even when they are a close contact or have a positive household member

COVID-19 Update & Mitigation Plan



6. Diagnostic Screening Testing

- ✓ All testing resources have been provided by the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) up to this point
 - The DHSS warehouse is trying to downsize the Disaster Response cache of personal protective equipment (PPE - Faceshields, Gowns, Tyvek suits, N-95 masks and Nitrile Gloves)
 - DHSS is providing minimal support through May 2022 to provide time for Districts to accumulate their own testing and PPE supplies
 - DHSS will be assessing the COVID situation in May 2022 to make further decisions on supporting school districts

Result	January	February	March (1-21)	Total
Negative	37	429	216	682
Positive	1	13	8	22
Positivity Rate	2.6%	2.9%	3.6	3.1% ⁸

COVID-19 Update & Mitigation Plan



7. Efforts to Provide Vaccinations

- ✓ Coordination with Maniilaq and Public Health
- ✓ Staff booster and flu vaccination clinic for all Kotzebue-based staff
- ✓ 5+ vaccinations available regionwide
- ✓ Open gym facility use requires individual participant vaccination and full masking



COVID-19 Update & Mitigation Plan



8. Appropriate Accommodations for Children with Disabilities



Depending on individual needs:

- ✓ Cellular iPads are available for assessment as needed
- ✓ Students may be still attending in person during a Red High-Risk Operational Zone
- ✓ Transportation modifications as needed
- ✓ Increased use of tele-therapy services

COVID-19 Update & Mitigation Plan



Continuity of Services

Green Low-Risk Operational Zone

- ✓ Services regularly provided for in-person
- ✓ Meals occur at the schools
- ✓ Teachers prepare 2 weeks of remote learning materials ahead “just-in-case”

Red High-Risk Operational Zone

- ✓ 1:1 student devices go home for remote learning
- ✓ Food is packed to go home
- ✓ Learning materials go home
- ✓ Arrange for students to get help as needed



COVID-19 Update & Mitigation Plan



Other COVID Related Updates

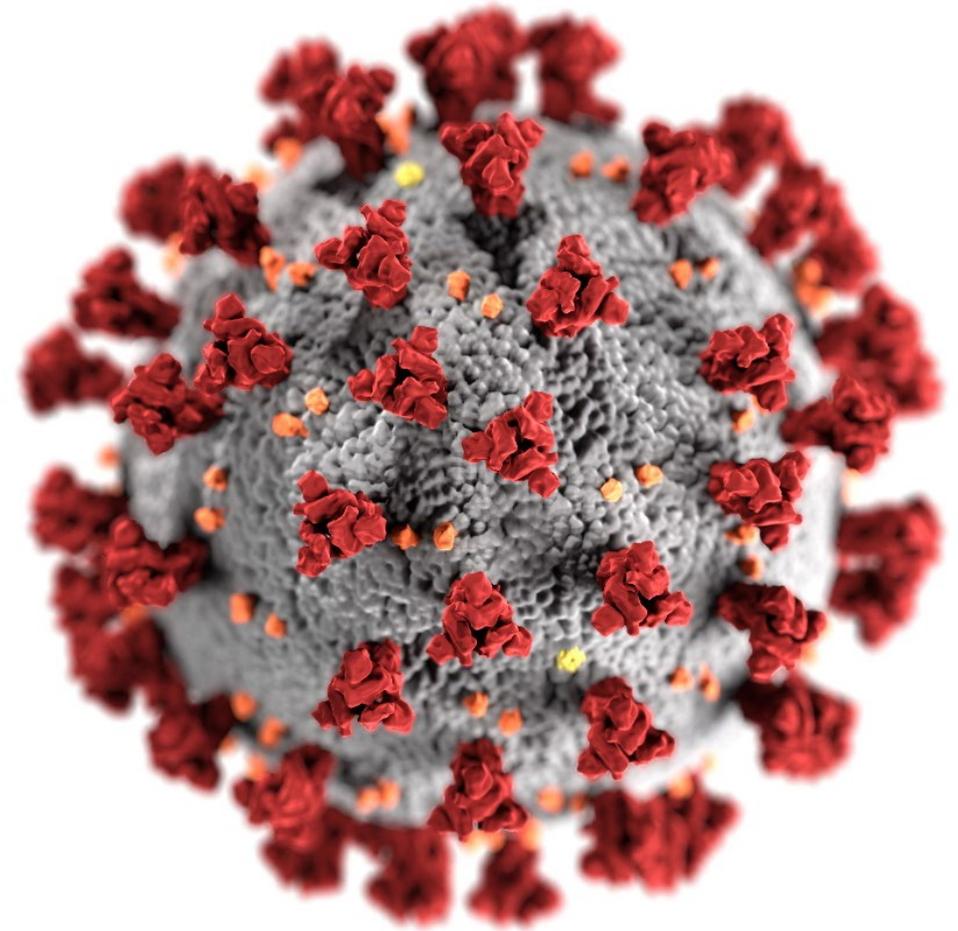
- ✓ The District is working closely with Maniilaq and NWAB on the changing CDC recommendations
- ✓ No changes have been made in the region; however, all entities are discussing moving forward with a reduction of overall mandates
- ✓ Home COVID tests are becoming more prevalent and are not considered diagnostic by Maniilaq or NWABSD
- ✓ As if February 25, 2022, [CDC does not require the use of masks on on buses](#) or vans operated by public or private school systems, including early care and education/childcare programs.

Indicators for Monitoring COVID-19 Community Levels and COVID-19 and Implementing COVID-19 Prevention Strategies

Accessible Version: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/community-levels.html>

Overview and Scientific Rationale

February 25, 2022



[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

Why refocus efforts for monitoring COVID-19 in communities?

- **Shift from eliminating SARS-CoV-2 transmission towards more relevant metrics given current levels of population immunity and tools available**
 - **Current high levels of population immunity reduce risk of severe outcomes**
 - High rates of vaccination in population as a whole
 - Availability of boosters, and booster coverage among populations at high risk
 - In unvaccinated, high rates of infection-induced protection
 - **Breadth of tools available for public health and clinical care**
 - Broad access to vaccines, therapeutics, testing
- **Community measures should focus on minimizing the impact of severe COVID-19 illness on health and society**
 - Preventing medically significant illness
 - Minimizing burden on the healthcare system
 - Protecting the most vulnerable through vaccines, therapeutics, and COVID-19 prevention

CDC's Indicators of Community Transmission

Indicator	Low Transmission	Moderate Transmission	Substantial Transmission	High Transmission
Total new cases per 100,000 persons in the past 7 days	0-9	10-49	50-99	≥100
Percentage of Nucleic Acid Amplification Test results that are positive during the past 7 days	<5.0%	5.0%-7.9%	8.0%-9.9%	≥10.0%

- First released in September 2020
- Relied on two metrics to define community transmission: Total new cases per 100,000 persons in the past 7 days, and percentage of Nucleic Acid Amplification Test results that are positive during the past 7 days
- Used by CDC to inform setting-specific guidance and layered prevention strategies (e.g., screening testing in schools, masking, etc.)
- Public health practitioners, schools, businesses, and community organizations also rely on these metrics to inform decisions about prevention measures

The current state of the pandemic requires a refined approach to monitoring COVID-19

- Community transmission indicators were developed in fall 2020 (prior to availability of vaccines) and reflect goal of limiting transmission in anticipation of vaccines being available
- **Neither of the community transmission indicators reflects medically significant disease or healthcare strain**
- Community transmission levels are largely driven by case incidence, which does not differentiate mild and severe disease

Criteria for Selecting Community Indicators

- Indicators had to meet several criteria:
 1. Data available at the county level or allocated to county level from health service areas
 2. Data source provides nation-wide coverage
 3. Data reflect intended goals of emphasizing medically significant disease and healthcare strain
 4. Data reported at least weekly (or more often) with sufficient timeliness to allow data to inform decisions about prevention measures

Selecting COVID-19 Community Indicators

- Criteria were established to assess potential candidate indicators
- Review of historical data from 18 months of the pandemic
 - Compiled available indicators across data systems
 - Assessed trends in increases and declines in cases, hospital capacity, other indicators
 - Reviewed historical data and thresholds used in COVID-19 Community Profile Report | HealthData.gov and State Profile Report
- Assessed candidate indicators against criteria and eliminated those that did not fully meet established criteria
 - Deaths, while an important metric, are a lagging indicator and have low numbers which result in unstable estimates at local levels
 - Emergency Department visits from the National Syndromic Surveillance Program are a promising indicator, but include 71% of emergency departments, so do not have national coverage

Final Selection of COVID-19 Community Indicators

- Narrowed the list of candidate indicators based on criteria:
 - *New hospital admissions with confirmed COVID-19/100,000 people and percent of inpatient beds occupied with COVID-19 patients* selected as best candidates
 - ICU beds occupied, new hospital admissions/100 beds, test positivity, and metrics reflecting percent change (e.g., in new admissions, new cases) eliminated
 - New cases retained as a potential candidate to assess performance as leading indicator

Establishing Thresholds for COVID-19 Community Levels

- Used correlation analyses and thresholds from Community Profile Reports and State Profile Reports to assess potential thresholds
- Correlations indicate:
 - 100 cases/100,000 population per week corresponds to about 3-4% of COVID-19 inpatient bed utilization, 6-10 new admissions/100,000 population
 - Inpatient bed occupancy is about half that of ICU occupancy
 - Fewer new admissions, fewer admissions per case, and lower inpatient bed utilization in areas with higher vaccination coverage
- Established candidate thresholds, then tested to calibrate levels

Indicator Performance Analysis Results

Question	Answer
What is the appropriate outcome variable?	Deaths, with ICU bed utilization as a secondary indicator. Both are correlated with transmission levels and COVID-19 community levels.
What is the optimal lag between the community level/transmission level and the outcome?	Correlation with death rates for new cases, hospital admissions and bed utilization peaks when the lag is set at 3 weeks.
How do individual indicators such as admissions, inpatient bed utilization predict outcomes?	Individual indicators have moderate correlation with deaths/100k three weeks later (~0.3) at the county level and high correlation (~0.8) at the state level. COVID-19 community levels (county: 0.3, state: 0.7) have higher correlations with death rates than transmission levels (county: 0.2, state: 0.5)
Which scheme (transmission levels or COVID-19 community levels) is more useful for identifying regions that will experience severe outcomes?	COVID-19 community levels are a more effective categorization scheme for identifying regions that will experience high death rates 3 weeks later according to multiple metrics (correlation, AUROC).
Should the thresholds be adjusted in response to this analysis?	Adjusting thresholds shifts the balance between levels and more balanced categorizations are more informative. COVID-19 community levels result in more balanced categories/levels.

Do community transmission levels or COVID-19 community levels better predict deaths and ICU utilization in counties?

- Do higher transmission levels and higher COVID-19 community levels correspond to more severe outcomes 3 weeks later?
 - Multiple analyses using different indicator thresholds were conducted to optimize the levels. COVID-19 community levels provided consistently better prediction compared with community transmission.
 - Analyses used AUROC (area under receiver operating characteristic). This can be interpreted as the probability that given two randomly selected observations from different levels, the one with the more severe outcome comes from a higher transmission/COVID-19 community level. Data analyzed included historical data from March 2021-January 2022
 - A score of 0.5 would correspond to random guessing and a score of 1 would indicate that worse outcomes always correspond to higher COVID-19 community levels/transmission levels.
- COVID-19 community levels are better predictors of deaths and ICU utilization 3 weeks later than community transmission levels at the county level.
 - Analyses using AUROC, Spearman's correlation, and Pearson's correlation coefficient provide consistent results.
 - Analyses used 4-level schemes for COVID-19 community levels and then were pared down to 3 levels based on end-user feedback.

Indicator Thresholds were Further Refined

- Compared different combinations of thresholds
 - With/without case threshold, and with different case thresholds (100, 200, 500, 1000 cases/100,000/week)
 - Different levels of *new COVID-19 hospital admissions and inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients*
- Optimized levels based on thresholds with consistently higher performance at predicting ICU bed utilization, deaths, new admissions, and inpatient bed use 3 weeks later

CDC's COVID-19 Community Levels and Indicators

New Cases (per 100,000 population in the last 7 days)	Indicators	Low	Medium	High
Fewer than 200	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	<10.0	10.0-19.9	≥20.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	<10.0%	10.0-14.9%	≥15.0%
200 or more	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	NA	<10.0	≥10.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	NA	<10.0%	≥10.0%

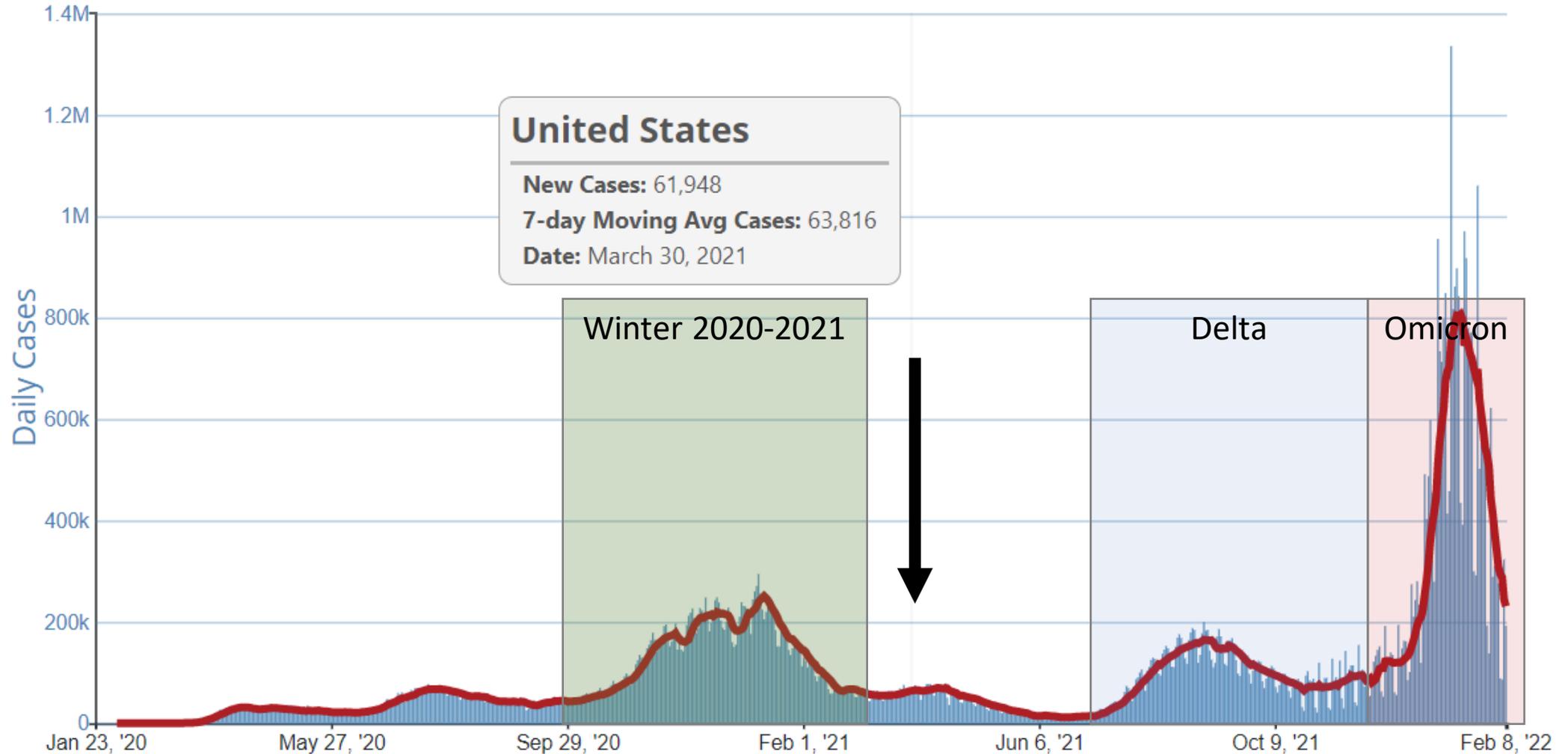
The COVID-19 community level is determined by the higher of the inpatient beds and new admissions indicators, based on the current level of new cases per 100,000 population in the past 7 days

COVID-19 community levels are better predictors of deaths and ICU utilization in communities

- The proposed COVID-19 community levels provide a **sizeable improvement** over the community transmission levels in identifying regions that will experience severe outcomes 3 weeks later
 - To prevent deaths and ICU bed use, COVID-19 community levels using new indicator metrics provide more robust measures
 - COVID-19 community levels result in more meaningful differences between categories

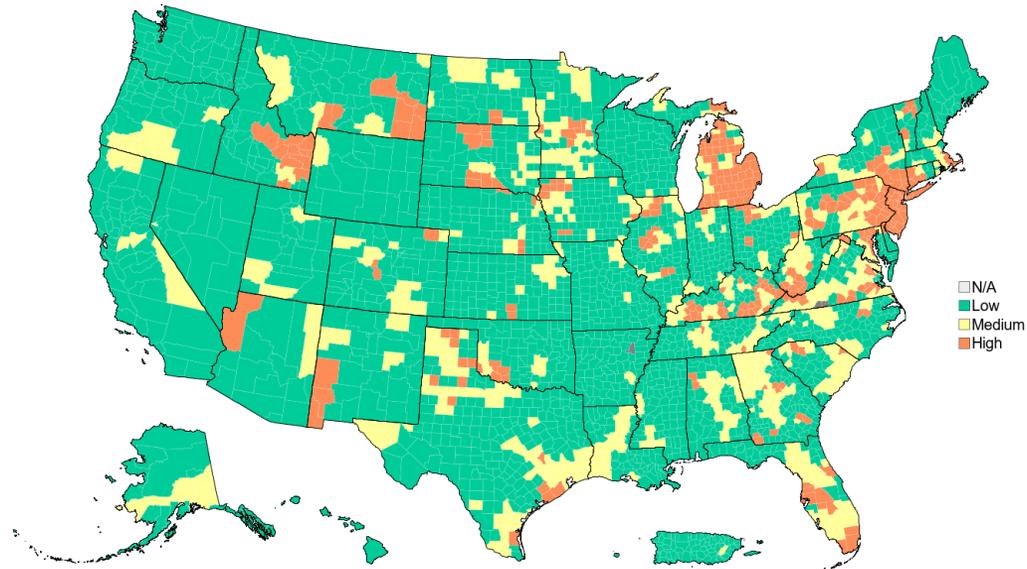
COVID-19 community levels on March 30, 2021 (post Alpha)

Daily Trends in Number of COVID-19 Cases in The United States Reported to CDC



COVID-19 Community Levels on March 30, 2021

COVID-19 Community Level

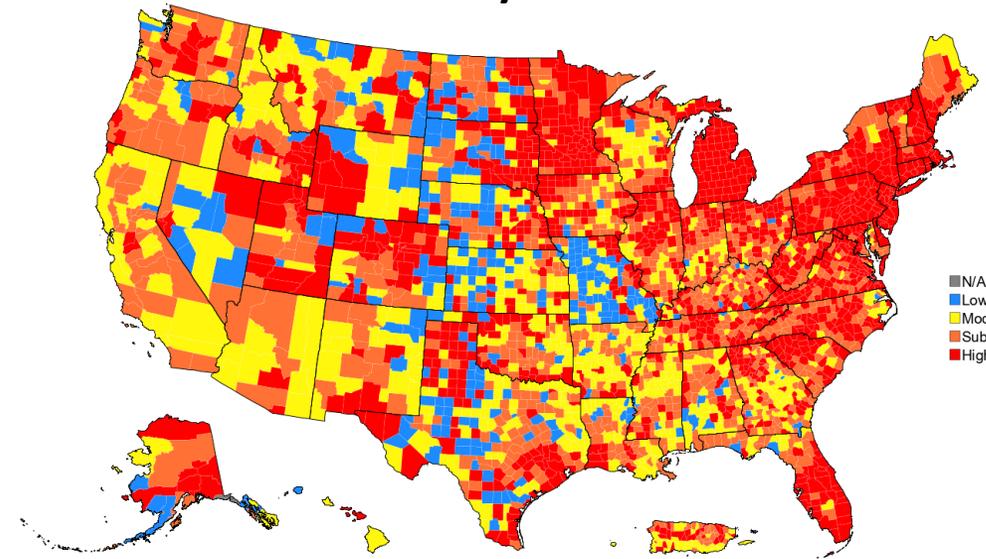


■ N/A
 ■ Low
 ■ Medium
 ■ High

% of Counties % of Pop.

Low	67.3%	56.9%
Medium	22.0%	23.4%
High	10.6%	19.7%

Community Transmission



■ N/A
 ■ Low
 ■ Moderate
 ■ Substantial
 ■ High

% of Counties % of Pop.

Low	9.3%	1.4%
Moderate	22.0%	17.3%
Subst.	28.3%	26.4%
High	40.5%	54.9%

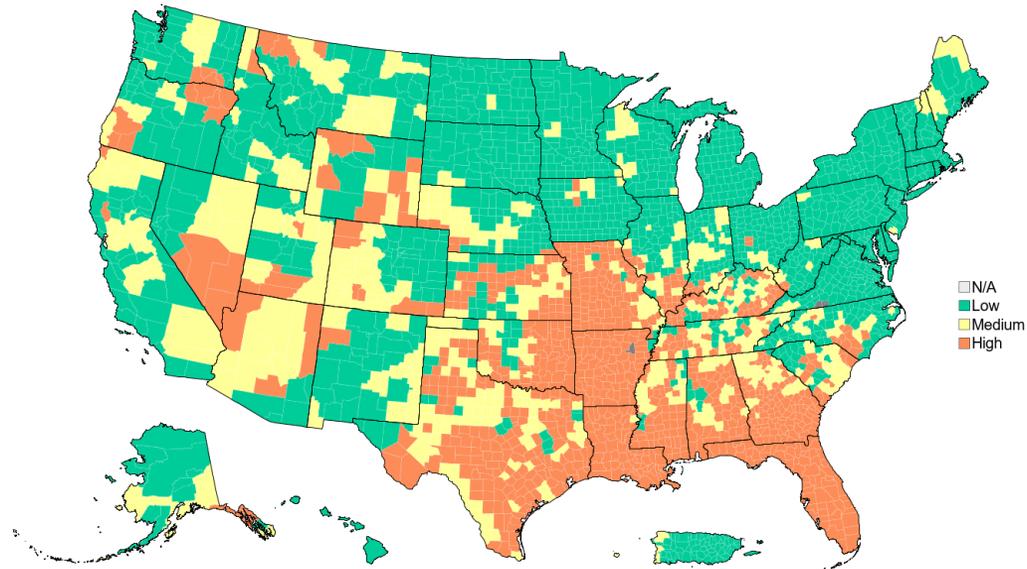
COVID-19 community levels on July 30, 2021 (rise of Delta)

Daily Trends in Number of COVID-19 Cases in The United States Reported to CDC



COVID-19 Community Levels on July 30, 2021

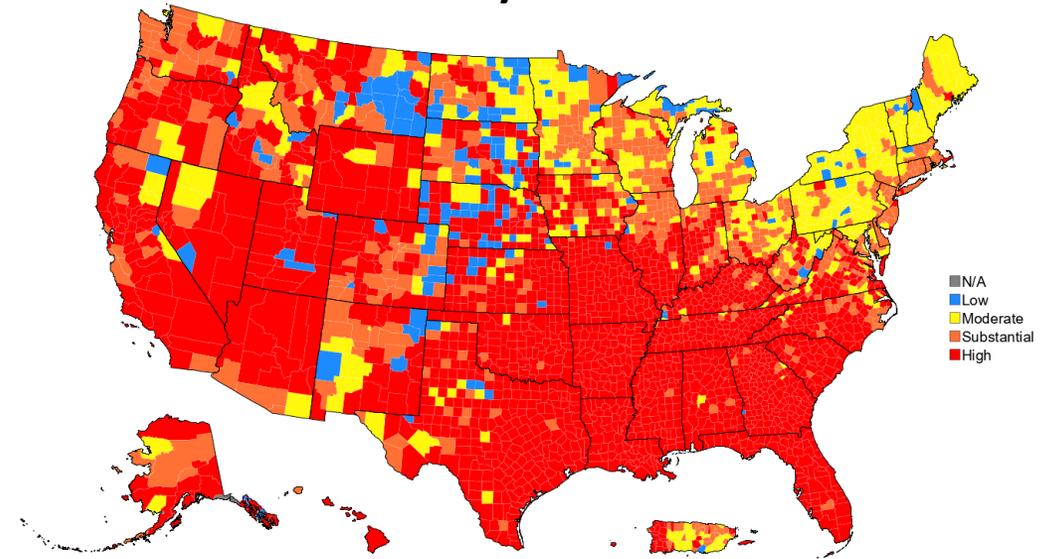
COVID-19 Community Level



% of Counties % of Pop.

Low	49.6%	57.7%
Medium	20.2%	18.3%
High	30.1%	23.9%

Community Transmission

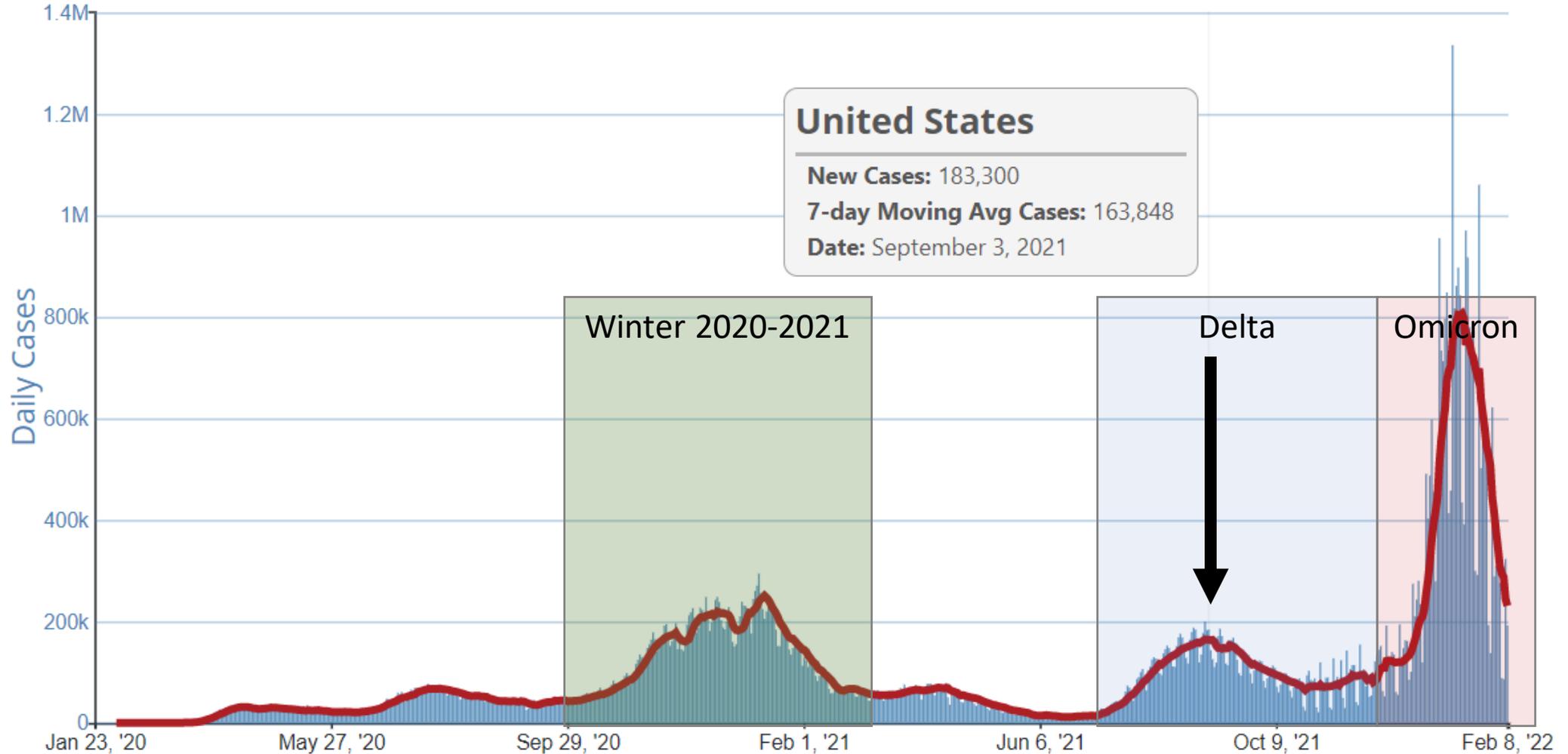


% of Counties % of Pop.

Low	4.8%	0.4%
Moderate	15.7%	12.1%
Subst.	18.2%	28.0%
High	61.3%	59.4%

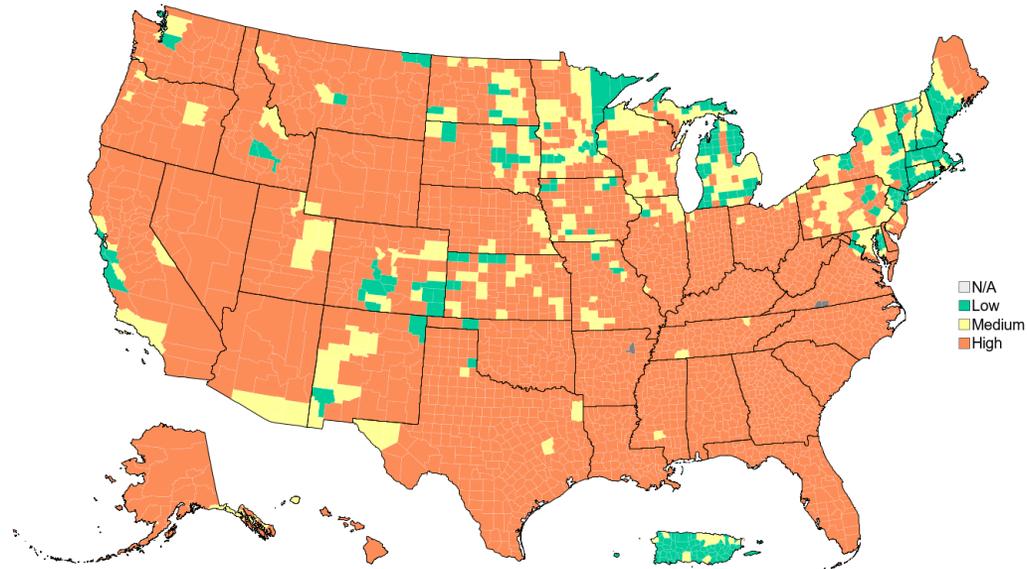
COVID-19 community levels on September 3, 2021 (peak of Delta)

Daily Trends in Number of COVID-19 Cases in The United States Reported to CDC



COVID-19 Community Levels on September 3, 2021

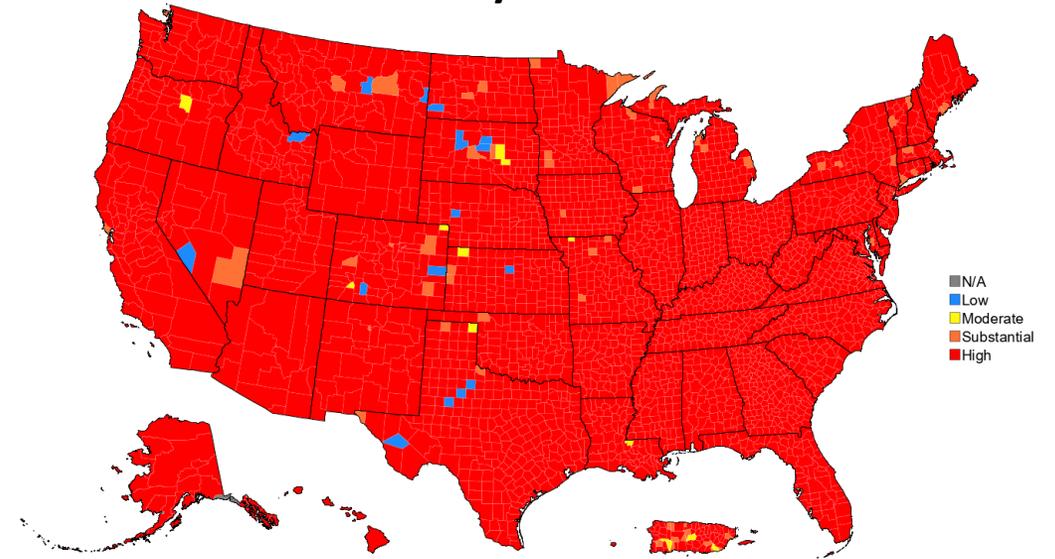
COVID-19 Community Level



% of Counties % of Pop.

Low	8.1%	14.9%
Medium	12.2%	20.5%
High	79.6%	64.7%

Community Transmission

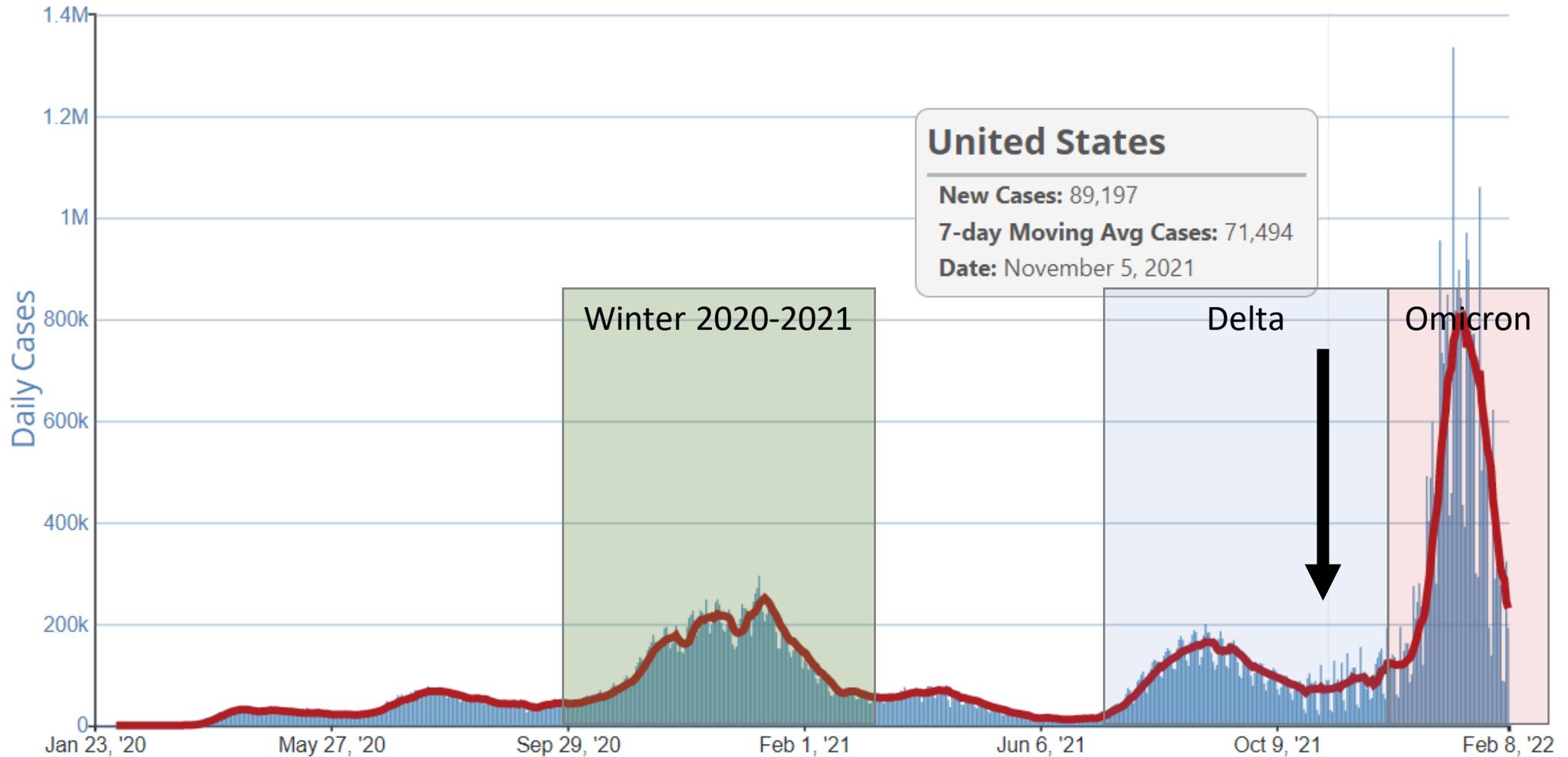


% of Counties % of Pop.

Low	0.5%	0.0%
Moderate	0.4%	0.0%
Subst.	2.0%	1.2%
High	97.0%	98.8%

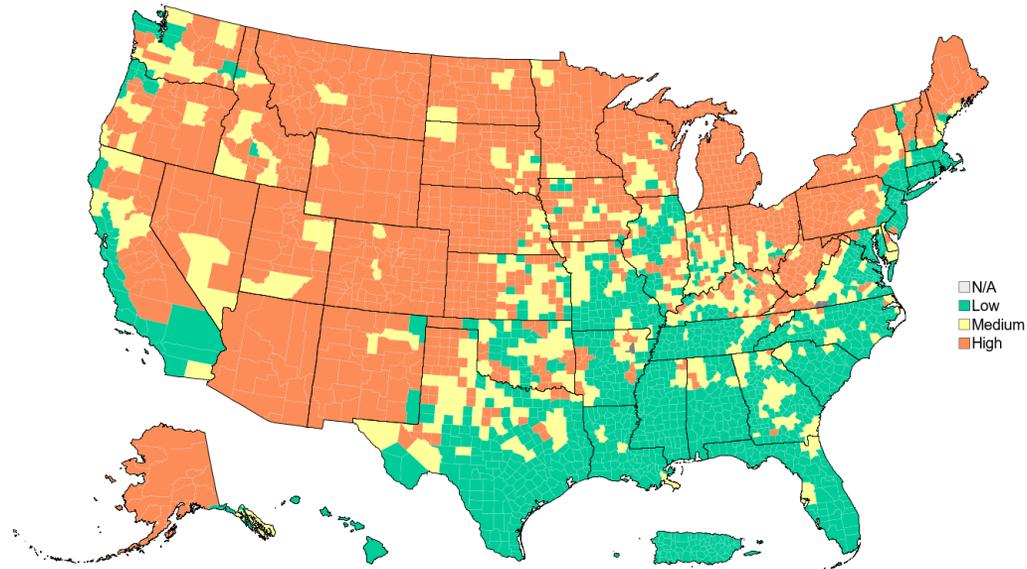
COVID-19 community levels on November 5, 2021 (between Delta and Omicron)

Daily Trends in Number of COVID-19 Cases in The United States Reported to CDC



COVID-19 Community Levels on November 5, 2021

COVID-19 Community Level

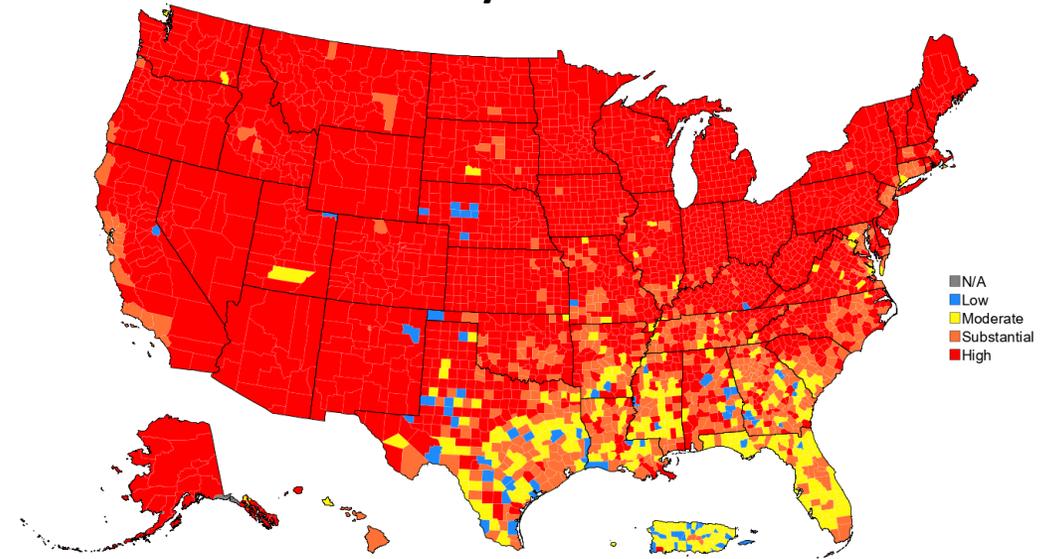


■ N/A
■ Low
■ Medium
■ High

% of Counties % of Pop.

Low	38.3%	58.5%
Medium	21.5%	16.5%
High	40.1%	25.0%

Community Transmission



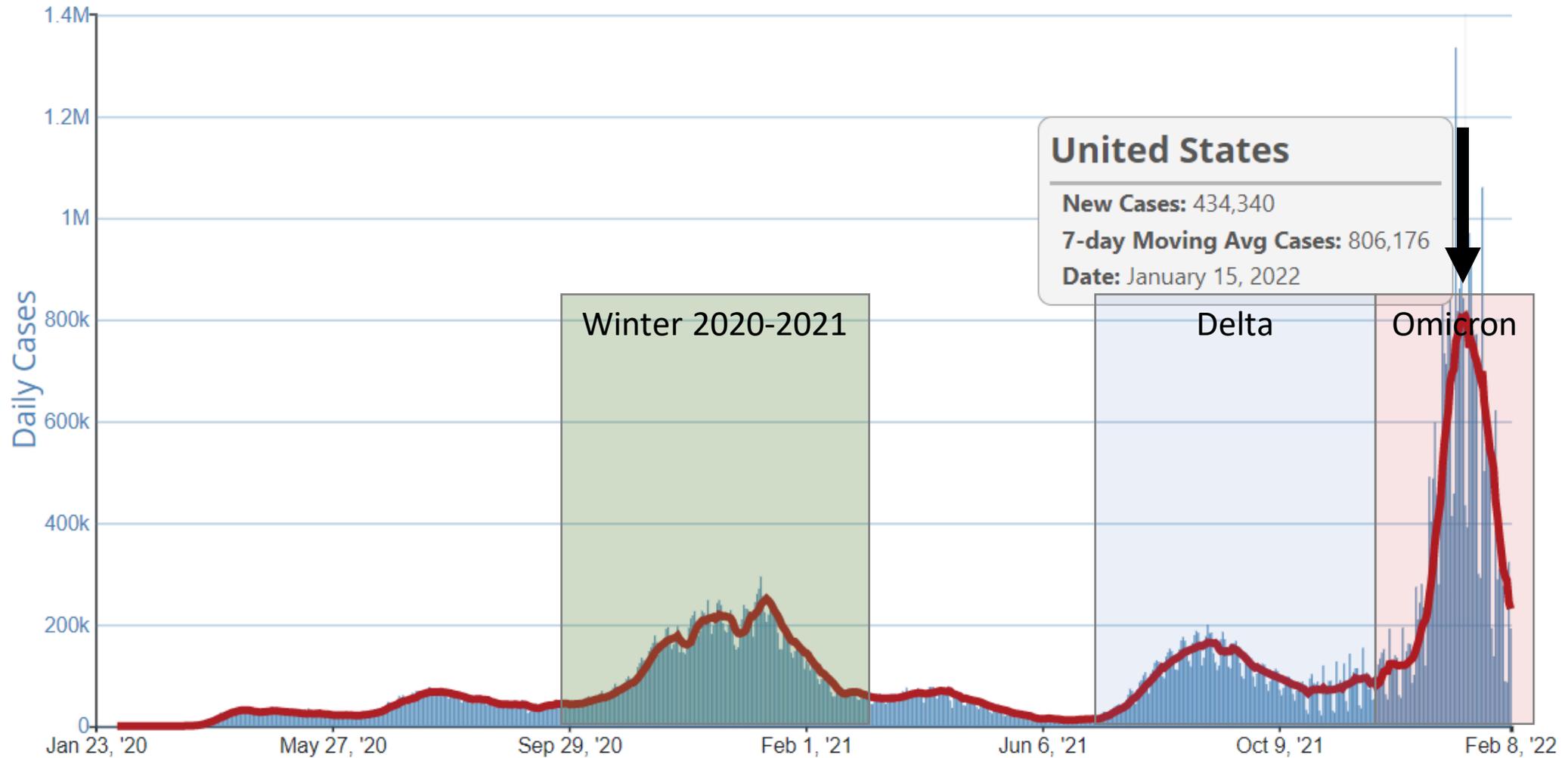
■ N/A
■ Low
■ Moderate
■ Substantial
■ High

% of Counties % of Pop.

Low	2.6%	0.6%
Moderate	9.4%	8.6%
Subst.	16.8%	32.5%
High	71.2%	58.2%

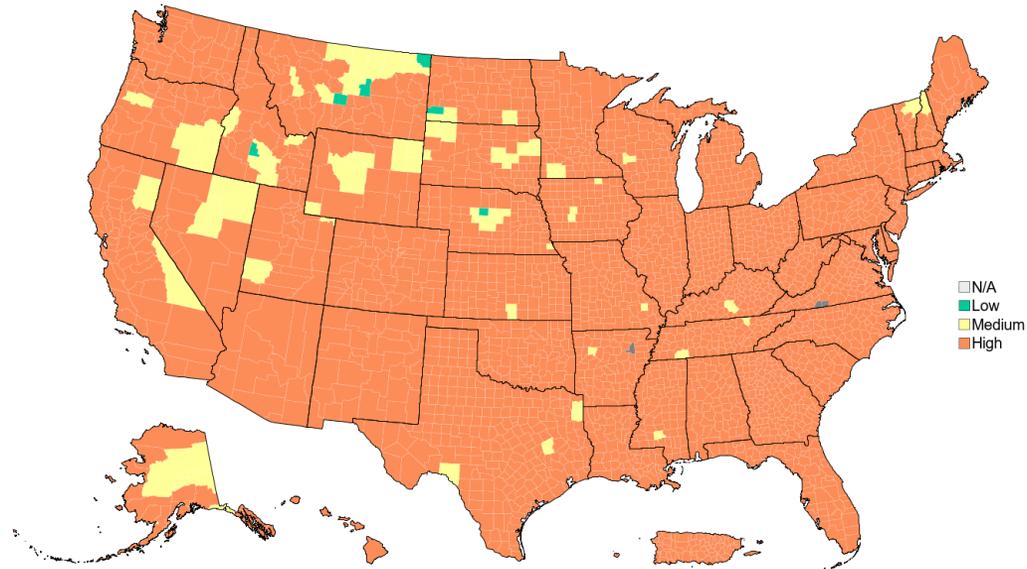
COVID-19 community levels on January 15, 2022 (peak of Omicron)

Daily Trends in Number of COVID-19 Cases in The United States Reported to CDC



COVID-19 Community Levels on January 15, 2022

COVID-19 Community Level

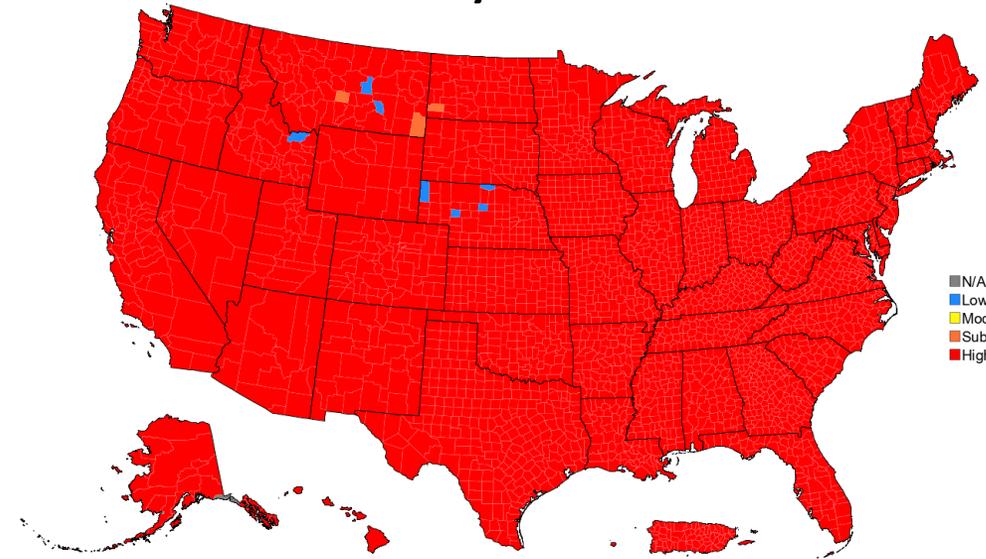


■ N/A
 ■ Low
 ■ Medium
 ■ High

% of Counties % of Pop.

Low	0.2%	0.0%
Medium	3.2%	0.5%
High	96.5%	99.5%

Community Transmission

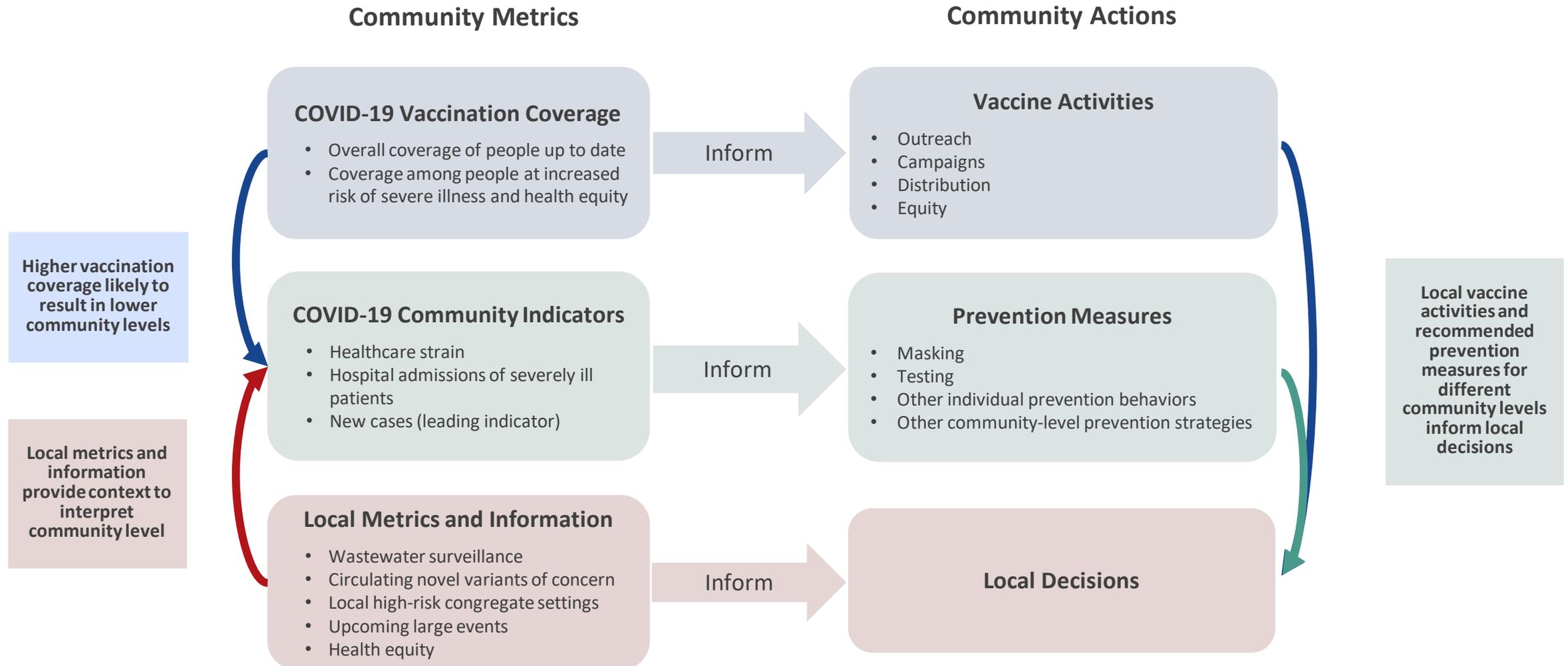


■ N/A
 ■ Low
 ■ Moderate
 ■ Substantial
 ■ High

% of Counties % of Pop.

Low	0.3%	0.0%
Moderate	0.0%	0.0%
Subst.	0.1%	0.0%
High	99.6%	100.0%

Proposed Framework for Monitoring and Prevention



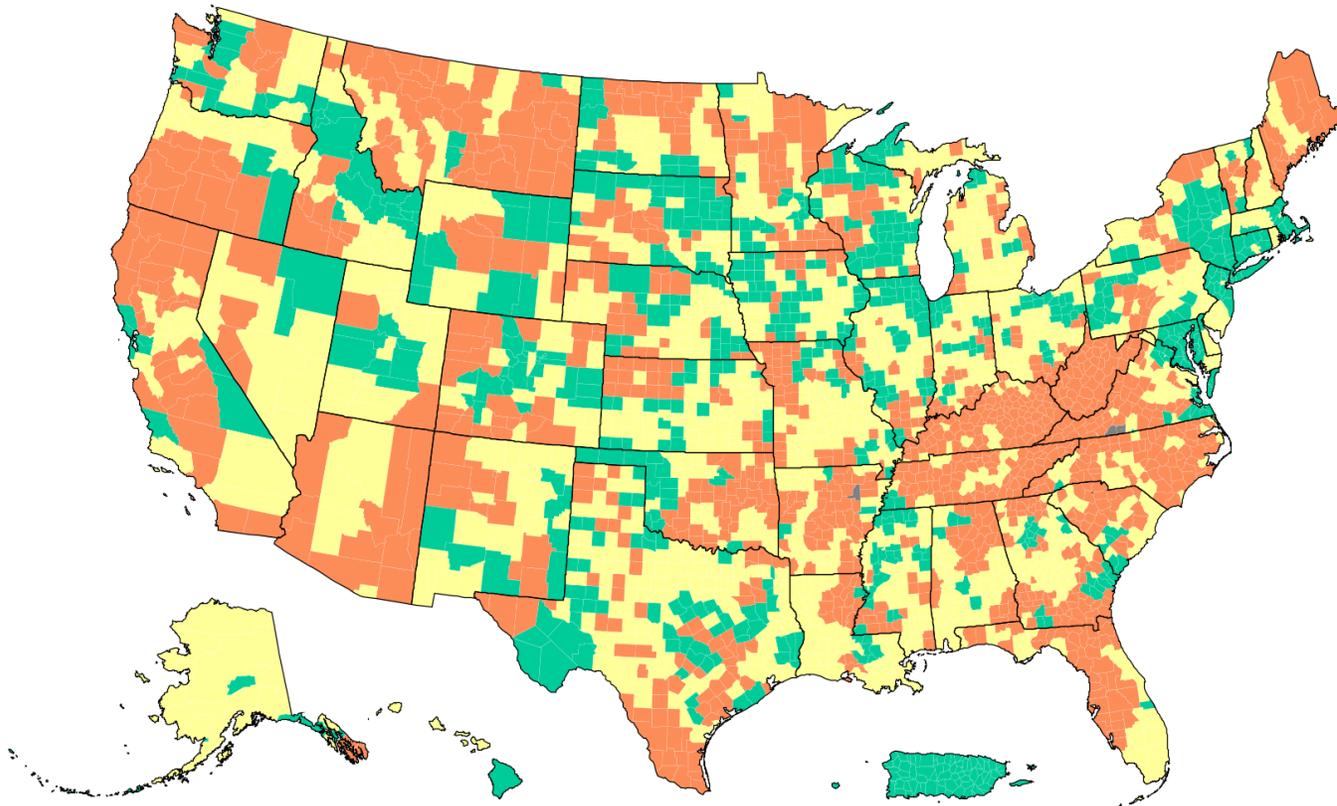
Implications for Using COVID-19 Community Levels to Inform Public Health Recommendations

- COVID-19 community levels can inform recommendations for **community-level preventive strategies** and **individual preventive behaviors**
- At higher COVID-19 community levels recommendation would include:
 - Masking
 - Testing Strategies (e.g., screening testing)
 - High-risk individuals and their household or social contacts (e.g., masking, testing, and access to treatments)
 - Setting-specific recommendations (e.g., K-12 schools, healthcare)
 - High-risk congregate settings (e.g., masking and screening testing)

Key Considerations

- Vaccination is the leading public health prevention strategy to prevent severe disease and deaths from COVID-19.
- People who are up to date on vaccines have much lower risk of severe illness and death from COVID-19 compared with unvaccinated people.
- When making decisions about individual preventive behaviors and community prevention strategies in addition to vaccination, people and health officials should consider the COVID-19 community level.
- Health departments should consider health equity, and make use of other surveillance information (wastewater, ED surveillance, etc.), if available, to inform local decisions.
- Layered prevention strategies — like staying up to date on vaccines and wearing masks — can help prevent severe disease and reduce strain on the healthcare system.

COVID-19 community levels on February 24, 2022



□ N/A
■ Low
■ Medium
■ High

	% of Counties	% of Pop.
Low	23.0%	29.5%
Medium	39.6%	42.2%
High	37.3%	28.2%

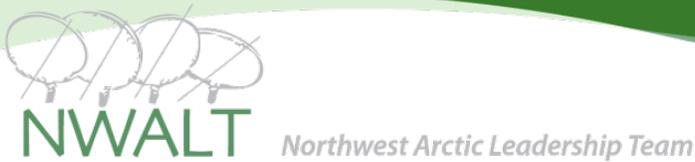
Data sources and acknowledgments

- **Data sources**

- Unified Hospital Data Surveillance System (UHDSS)
- Aggregate Case and Death Counts (ACDC)

- **Acknowledgments**

- Johns Hopkins University's Applied Physics Laboratory
- CDC COVID-19 Response



The Honorable Deb Haaland
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington DC 20240

March __, 2022

RE: Support for the Ambler Access Project Joint Record of Decision

Dear Secretary Haaland:

The Northwest Arctic Leadership Team (“NWALT”) writes today to express our support for the Ambler Access Project (“AAP”) Joint Record of Decision (“JROD”). We are extremely concerned that the Department of the Interior (“DOI”) may significantly delay this project, which is of vital importance to advancing the quality of life for the people of Northwest Alaska. We urge you to move forward with the AAP without delay.

NWALT is comprised of the top executive and chairperson of the following organizations which serve communities across an area of 38,000 square miles (about the size of Indiana): Maniilaq Association, a consortium of 12 federally recognized Tribes which provides health, social, and tribal government services through compacts with the Indian Health Service and Bureau of Indian Affairs; NANA Regional Corporation, an Alaska Native corporation formed pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act; Northwest Arctic Borough, a home rule regional government formed under the laws of the State of Alaska; and the Northwest Arctic Borough School District, a public school system educating about 2,000 students in 11 villages. Together, our organizations are entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring the people of our region have every opportunity to live a quality life and achieve the American Dream right here in our home communities along the Arctic Circle.

The JROD represents over a decade of work by federal career professionals, with village and regional leaders dedicating countless hours and resources to providing input into the administrative review process despite limited capacity. When it comes to what is best for our region, we listen to our villages and their leadership and to our Elders, who consistent with the Iñupiat Iitqusiat (Iñupiaq for “those things which make us who we are”) provide us guidance and wisdom. Our Regional Elders Council and the Tribes in our region that are closest to the AAP – the Native Villages of Ambler, Kobuk, and Shungak – support the JROD. We are pleased to come alongside them and offer our support. We are confident in the JROD and the processes it outlines for considering impacts to subsistence, the environment, and the cultural and historical patrimony of our people.

Advancing the AAP aligns with the Biden Administration’s priorities of Racial Equity, Climate, Economy, and Health Care, as well as Executive Orders on supply chains and catalyzing America’s clean energy. Iñupiat people are 80 percent of our region’s population and have served as stewards of our homelands since time immemorial. Our physical, mental, emotional, and



spiritual health and our identities are interwoven with our natural environment in a relationship of reciprocity that can only develop over thousands of years. Our people have a fundamental human right to remain in our homelands and to thrive through a mixed subsistence and cash economy. Vast health, social, educational, and economic disparities exist between Alaska Native people and non-Natives that our organizations are combatting. Per the 2020 census, the poverty rate in the Northwest Arctic Borough was 18.5 percent compared to the national rate of 11.4 percent. The residents of our region pay large sums of money for goods given the lack of transportation infrastructure. The villages nearest the AAP receive goods flown in at exorbitant costs due to climate change no longer making river barge service a reliable option. For example, gas costs around \$10/gallon, which is also the cost of a gallon of milk if and when it is available. These costs are only growing higher because of inflation.

The village and regional leadership of Northwest Alaska is committed to moving forward with the AAP, and the danger of delay or failure to move forward sits like a timebomb. The Red Dog Mine, which is our region’s largest private employer and which funds about 85 percent of the Northwest Arctic Borough’s annual budget, is scheduled to close in 2032. This closure will significantly impact the national supply of critical minerals, as it comprises 80 percent of U.S. zinc production. The Red Dog Mine is situated on land owned by NANA, and through its 33 years of operation our region has developed great expertise in responsible resource development that protects our Iñupiat way of life and culture, and the environment. Drawing from over three decades of Red Dog Mine experience, the AAP is modeled after the Red Dog Mine’s Delong Mountain Transportation System, a public-private partnership with the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (“AIDEA”), the permit applicant for the AAP. It confounds us that the Biden Administration has committed to moving toward a green economy that requires copper, zinc, silver, cobalt and other metals that would be accessible through the AAP and has identified mineral supply chain issues as a national security issue, yet the Administration is allowing the AAP to be thrown off course.

We do not support the JROD being remanded to the DOI for additional work. However, if the JROD is going to be remanded, DOI’s additional tasks must be clearly identified, with a specific, reasonable timeline for completion of each task, and there must be status reports along the way to the public and through Tribal and Alaska Native Corporation consultations. We believe in the Biden Administration’s commitment to a green future in which the United States is a leader, and we believe the AAP is a critical component of working toward that future.

Sincerely,

[insert signature lines]

CC:

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski

The Honorable Dan Sullivan

The Honorable Don Young



Northwest Arctic Leadership Team

[White House and additional CCs]

From: Elizabeth Ferguson <Elizabeth.Ferguson@nana.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 1, 2022 8:14 AM

To: Margaret Hansen <mhansen@nwarctic.org>

Subject: RE: CAPSIS List Ranking Tool

Hi Margaret,

Thank you for attending and providing your insight throughout the meeting! The final five is below. This is just for the CAPSIS list, so the 2022 NWALT priorities that you discuss on Friday might include these or other projects.

	Project	State Funding Requested	Total Project Cost
1	City of Kotzebue Cape Blossom Road	\$40,000,000	\$40,000,000
2	NWABSD ATC Family Housing Project	\$11,097,000	\$11,177,000
3	AVEC Upper Kobuk Area Wide Energy Improvements	\$30,600,000	\$30,600,000
4	NAB Public Safety Facilities	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
5	NAB Noatak Road to Red Dog Mine	\$45,000,000	\$45,000,000

Elizabeth

**NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH ASSEMBLY
ORDINANCE 22-01**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE NORTHWEST ARCTIC
BOROUGH ASSEMBLY TO ADOPT CHAPTER 10.24 OF
THE BOROUGH CODE TO ESTABLISH A REGIONAL
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION, AND
FOR RELATED PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS: the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration establishes Regional Transportation Planning Organizations (RTPOs) to identify local transportation needs, conduct planning, assist local governments, and support the statewide transportation planning process in non-metropolitan regions of a state, including Rural Alaska and communities off the road system ("Rural Alaska"); and

WHEREAS: pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 5304 (a)(1) and (e)(1), the State of Alaska is directed to develop a statewide transportation plan and a statewide transportation improvement program for all areas of the State and must cooperate with affected local transportation officials or, if applicable, through regional transportation planning organizations; and

WHEREAS: pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 5304 (l), to carry out required transportation planning processes, a state may establish and designate regional transportation planning organizations to enhance the planning, coordination, and implementation of statewide strategic long-range transportation plans and transportation improvement programs, with an emphasis on addressing the needs of non-metropolitan areas of the State, including Rural Alaska; and

WHEREAS: pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 5304 (l)(2) and (3), RTPOs are multijurisdictional organizations composed of voluntary nonmetropolitan local officials or their designees and voluntary representatives of local transportation systems, and shall at a minimum include a policy committee and fiscal and administrative agent; and

WHEREAS: pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 5304 (l)(4), the duties of the RTPO include:

- (A) developing and maintaining, in cooperation with the State, regional long-range multimodal transportation plans;
- (B) developing a regional transportation improvement program for consideration by the State;

(C) fostering the coordination of local planning, land use, and economic development plans with State, regional, and local transportation plans and programs;

(D) providing technical assistance to local officials;

(E) participating in national, multistate, and State policy and planning development processes to ensure the regional and local input of non-metropolitan areas;

(F) providing a forum for public participation in the statewide and regional transportation planning processes;

(G) considering and sharing plans and programs with neighboring regional transportation planning organizations, metropolitan planning organizations, and, where appropriate, tribal organizations; and

(H) conducting other duties, as necessary, to support and enhance the statewide planning process.

WHEREAS: the State of Alaska Department of Transportation supports the establishment of RTPOs in Alaska and recently designated federal funding in furtherance of this effort; and

WHEREAS: the Alaska Municipal League (AML) also supports the establishment of RTPOs in Alaska; and

WHEREAS: under Resolution 21-65, the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly expressed its support for the creation of and participation in an RTPO; and

WHEREAS: the Assembly has determined that it is in the Borough's best interest to adopt Chapter 10.24 of the Borough Code in order to better serve the Borough and its residents through establishment of an RTPO.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED BY THE
NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH ASSEMBLY:**

Section 1: Chapter 10.24 of the Borough Code is adopted as follows:

10.24.010 Northwest Arctic Regional Transportation Planning Organization.

The Northwest Arctic Regional Transportation Planning Organization (NABRTPO) is hereby established as public forum where regional transportation leaders will consider multi-modal transportation projects that

affect the entire region. The purpose is to create a common perspective, prioritization, and unified voice on transportation projects and issues that affect the entire region. The organization will address specific transportation projects as well as long-range regional transportation planning.

10.24.020 Functions.

As an advisory body, the NABRTPO will perform the following functions:

- A. Review and make recommendations on regional transportation issues;
- B. Select and prioritize regional transportation projects;
- C. Establish a process to evaluate and rank regional projects;
- D. Communicate project recommendations to local, state, and federal officials;
- E. Develop and update long-range regional transportation plans;
- F. Review and advise government agencies and transportation providers on planning issues with regional significance; and
- G. Serve as a regional public forum for transportation issues.

10.24.030 Organization.

A. The NABRTPO Policy Committee will be organized as follows:

- 1. One member nominated from each of the following organizations: Northwest Arctic Borough, NANA Regional Corporation, Maniilaq Association, Northwest Arctic Borough School District, and the City of Kotzebue.
- 2. Two members nominated from the Ambler, Buckland, Deering, Kiana, Kivalina, Kobuk, Noatak, Noorvik, Selawik, and Shungnak.
- 3. The mayor, the assembly president, DOTP&F representative, and the regional representative and senator currently serving in the Alaska State Legislature may participate in NABRTPO meetings as ex officio nonvoting members.

B. When appointing NABRTPO members, the mayor and assembly will consider the following: the ability and character of members to represent the borough as a whole, the necessary expertise to identify transportation needs, identify available resources, and to establish and implement a regional transportation strategy and plan to meet those needs.

C. Other than ex officio members, upon request, each member will receive compensation at the rate established by NABC 2.80.060 for each meeting day of the commission attended unless that member otherwise receives compensation from their member organization. Compensation will be paid at the rate established by NABC 2.80.060 per day of attendance at a convention, conference, or similar gathering. Compensation does not include per diem which may be paid separately.

10.24.040 Meetings.

- A. The NABRTPO should meet at least three times per year to review and establish annual priorities for transportation projects and conduct other organization business.
- B. All meetings of the NABRTPO and any technical subcommittees will be open to the public and subject to public notice as provided in law.

10.24.050 Staff.

The staff from member agencies or contracted consultants will coordinate the administration of the NABRTPO.

Section 2: This Code Ordinance shall be effective immediately.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS ____ DAY OF _____ 2022.

Nathan Hadley, Jr., Assembly President

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS ____ DAY OF _____ 2022.

Dickie Moto, Sr., Mayor

**SIGNED AND ATTESTED TO THIS ____ DAY OF _____
2022.**

Helena Hildreth, Borough Clerk

ATTEST:

First Reading: _____

Second Reading: _____

MEMORANDUM

TO: Regional School
Board Members

DATE: March 22, 2022

NUMBER: Worksession Item

FR: Office of the Superintendent

SUBJECT: ASC Minutes

ASC Minutes received from:

Selawik 2/17/22
ATC ASC 12/7/21



DAVIS-RAMOTH MEMORIAL SCHOOL

PO BOX 119 • Selawik, Alaska 99770 • (907) 484-2142

ASC Meeting, February 17, 2022

6:00 PM

Davis-Ramoth Memorial School Library

1. Call to order: **Maureen Ticket**-Calls meeting to order at 6:05pm.

2. Roll call: **Andie Zink**-

P	Norma Ballot	P	Tanya Ballot	A	Tommy Ballot	A	Clyde Ramoth	P=Present / A= Absent	
A	Ralph Stalker	P	Maureen Ticket	P	Tillie Ticket	P	Andie Zink - Principal	P	Cassandra Bennett- Asst. Principal

3. Moment of silence: **Maureen Ticket**

4. Introduction of Guests: **Andie Zink**-Introduces Assistant Principal – Ms. Cassandra Bennett. Present ASC members welcome and thank her for coming to Selawik to teach their students.

5. Approval of Agenda: **Maureen Ticket**-Approval of agenda, changes or additions. Tanya Ballot moves to approve agenda, second by **Tillie Ticket**. **Maureen Ticket**-All agree, motion carries.

6. Approval of minutes – **Maureen Ticket**-Approval of meeting minutes Attachment A. Discussion of minutes from January 12, 2022. Norma Ballot moves to approve agenda, second by **Tillie Ticket**. **Maureen Ticket**-All agree, motion carries

7. Public Comments: None at this time

8. Correspondence: None at this time

9. Reports from councils: None at this time

10. Principal reports: **Andie Zink**-Attachment B. The attached attendance from beginning of school to February 8th 2022. Grades 3-6 have the highest attendance, high school has a total 72.25%. Teachers are doing several things to get high school students and all students into the building. Offered numerous ways to help them catch up on work. Principal Zink said we will be sending 3, 8 10 day letters. Parent teacher conferences on were held on February 7th & 8th, had a pretty good turn-out based on call-in, appointments, drop-ins, TEAMS. Teachers discussed attendance, grades, great things students are learning and doing. March 4th end of quarter, were offering tutoring, homework club, and one-on-one assistance to help students be successful. Attendance was about the same as in January. **Tillie Ticket**: That’s good, at least were down seeing it go down. The physical plant is in good order. We have some broken windows on the list of to do’s. Those will get fixed this summer or fall. Teacher housing and the building are in good shape. Norman is doing a good job. With the new changes on Facility Use Requests, we’ve received on, we’re just waiting on the mitigation plan. Prior to the change we hadn’t received any for the use of the gym. Extra-curricular activities, currently we have Battle of the Books, Spelling Bee, homework club, and



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Navigator Club. We also have MS basketball grades 6-8. We are currently working on the logistics for the round-robin tournament we're going to help host and participate in Noorvik along with Kiana. End of report. No questions

11. Items for Advisory School Council Consideration: None at this time
 - a) Old Business:
 - b) New Business:
12. Public Comments: None at this time
13. ASC member comments: **Tanya Ballot**-Tribe updated mandates, no need prior authorization but 48-hour covid test. Will continue to promote vaccination, will hand out a stipend again to our tribal members and residents. There are currently 20 positive active Covid cases in the community. We also need a bigger school. There are 705 tribal members currently living in Selawik and 700 living outside Selawik, we need to get our water and sewer fixed so they can all come home. Again, we need a bigger gym. I'm also going to keep promoting Jr-Sr scholarships, they are in place for them. **Tillie Ticket**-thank you teachers for teaching our students, still supporting the gym use, and I will continue to say, we need a new gym. **Maureen Ticket**-Thank you for coming to Cassandra and thank you Andie for your hard work. Will be nice for our kids to run in the gym. Need to host Noorvik and Kiana.
14. Time and Place of next meeting: March 26, 2022 @ 6:00pm
15. Adjournment: **Tanya Ballot**-motion to adjourn meeting, **Norma Ballot**-seconds, **Maureen Ticket**-motion carried.



DAVIS-RAMOTH MEMORIAL SCHOOL

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Attachment A: January 12, 2022-Minutes

ASC Meeting, January 12, 2022

6:00 PM

Davis-Ramoth Memorial School

1. Call to order: **Maureen Ticket:** Calls meeting to order at 6:15pm, Selawik, AK.
2. Swearing-In of new members: **Maureen Ticket** appoints Andie Zink to swear in new members Maureen Ticket and Norma Ballot with the oath of office.
3. Roll call:

X	Norma Ballot	A	Tommy Ballot	A	Ralph Stalker	X	Tillie Ticket
X	Tanya Ballot	A	Clyde Ramoth	X	Maureen Ticket	X	Andie Zink - Principal

4. Election of officers: President, Vice-President and Secretary: **Maureen Ticket:** Do we need to table it again? **Tanya Ballot:** Don't feel there's a need to continue to table this. Do we need to do it? **Maureen Ticket:** it's supposed to be done in October right after the elections. **Tanya Ballot:** who are the other officers we had listed in the past. **Maureen Ticket:** Clyde was VP and Tillie Ticket was Secretary. **Maureen Ticket:** Anyone interested in being chair. **Tillie Ticket:** No. **Tanya Ballot:** I believe you're doing a good job as a chair. I would encourage those that attend more regularly. Norma? **Norma Ballot:** No. **Tillie Ticket:** I agree to leave the officers the same. **Tanya Ballot:** I make motion for unanimous consent to leave as is. **Tillie Ticket:** I make motion, Tanya as VP. **Norma Ballot:** Second. **Maureen Ticket:** motion passes with unanimous consent. Maureen Ticket President, Tanya Ballot Vice President, Tillie Ticket Secretary.
5. Moment of silence: **Maureen Ticket**
6. Introduction of Guests: None at this time
7. Approval of Agenda: **Maureen Ticket-** motion to approve agenda. **Tillie Ticket:** moves to approve agenda as presented. **Tanya Ballot:** seconds. **Maureen Ticket:** motion carries.
8. Approval of minutes - Attachment A: **Maureen Ticket:** Motion to approve agenda. **Tillie Ticket:** makes motion to approve meeting minutes of Dec 2, 2021. **Tanya Ballot:** seconds. **Maureen Ticket:** Motion carries.
9. Public Comments: None at this time
10. Correspondence: None at this time
11. Reports from councils: None at this time
12. Principal reports – Attachment B, Attachment C: **Andie Zink:** Reviews principal report attachment. Davis-Ramoth Memorial School attendance YTD @ 82.04%, and Sports Eligibility Report for 2nd



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semester, Assistant Principal, and physical plant condition. **Maureen Ticket:** Does anyone have any questions? **Tillie Ticket:** I don't have any questions. I hope all the teachers that have COVID are ok. It's just so heartbreaking. What can we do to help our kids raise grades and attendance? Breaks my heart why we're not eligible to play sports. It's what keeps our kids in school. The travel for basketball and cross country. **Norma Ballot:** We started off really strong, the kids were on task. Makes me want to cry. The boys were on task-we have evidence, we'd take pictures and send them in. We got disorganized-just stopped submitting because we weren't getting feedback. My youngest was on his computer. Parents and kids got burnt out. As a parent I'm tired from teaching kids. We're still trying to adjust from October. As parents we just gave up. **Maureen Ticket:** I also work full-time and have health issues. I also get frustrated I can't help my kids during the day. **Tanya Ballot:** The tribe is doing everything we can and helping our community that our staff is over worked and we're falling apart. There's strife in the community. We're trying to do the best we can. It's hard to understand what everyone is going through. I think it's only going to get worse before it gets better. There's limitations and expectations. **Andie Zink:** We hear you and also feel the frustration. The entire school staff has been doing everything possible to help students with homework and instruction. Teachers have made over 5800 log entries, which means, they have tried to contact parents and students over 5800 times since the beginning of the school year. Teachers have shared their frustration on not being able to get in contact with parents or students because telephone numbers are blocked, they get hung up on, have incorrect numbers, won't respond to vhf announcement (teachers make countless announcements on vhf over the day), emails or letters sent home. So, we hear and share your frustrations. However, we need to concentrate on the positive. How can we help you help us help the students? How can we help parents/guardians with getting their students to school when in green? As a collective group, all entities involved, we need to work together on solutions. **Maureen Ticket:** There's a lot of money in the account from senior funds, we can use that for incentives for students. We also need encouragement for vaccinations for the community so we can have open gym. We're at 52% we need to help raise that. **Norma Ballot:** It's hard to have kids go to school when it's cold and dark. The school has honda's they can use to pick up students. I have 3 boys that could use a ride.

13. Items for Advisory School Council Consideration: None at this time

- a. Old Business:
- b. New Business:

14. Public Comments: None at this time

15. ASC member comments: **Tillie Ticket:** Thank you everyone. Glad you're on this side Norma. We need to try to encourage our school's parents. I still argue for a bigger school, bigger gym and we're working on it at the Regional School Board meetings. We're going to lobby soon. I won't give up on mentioning it. We are on the priority list for funding for pre-k and new high school. We need to keep encouraging kids to come to school. **Norma Ballot:** I will try to give it my best shot. It's my first time being on a board. **Tanya Ballot:** Thank you. I would like to see our kids back at school. If anyone, we need a bigger school and bigger gym. We need to be careful also because there's apprehension about the vaccine. People have a right to vaccinate or not vaccinate their kids or themselves. Right now, we're at 52%. Remember, our village has more kids than adults. I will try to do my best. **Maureen Ticket:** Yes, we do need a new school. Thank you to the staff for working hard.



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16. Time and Place of next meeting: February 17, 2022 @ 6:00pm
17. Adjournment: **Tillie Ticket**-motion to adjourn meeting. **Norma Ballot**-seconds. **Maureen Ticket**-motion carried.

Minutes from Alaska Technical Center, Advisory School Board Meeting (APPROVED @ Feb. 7, 2022 Meeting)
December 7, 2021

1. Welcome- Sam Towarak, Chair of ATC ASC, welcomed everyone at 10:04 am and opened the meeting. Mr. Towarak asked all individuals present to honor a moment of silence.
2. Introductions:

Council members present participated via TEAMS, so introductions were made virtually: Sam Towarak, Lori Henry, Margaret Hansen (Absent: Toby Drake, Fritz Westlake, Denise Koutchak, Charlie Nelson). Terri Walker (NWABSD Superintendent), Scott Lefebvre (NWABSD Assistant Superintendent), and Karla Head (ATC Director) were also present and introduced.
3. ATC current programs

Director Karla Head discussed the current adult programs that are offered at ATC. They are Construction Trades Technician and Culinary Arts. Health Sciences and Process Technology are not currently enrolling students due to lack of staff. Both instructor positions are currently listed on Alaska Teacher Placement and the School District Website. Human Resources and Karla Head are working to try to hire for both vacancies.

Construction Trades has 2 student on-track to graduate in May. After travelling to NANA Construction in Big Lake in November, these students have been guaranteed a position with NANA Construction upon completion of the CTT program.

Ms. Head is working to add numerous short courses to the spring 2022 semester. Additionally, there are numerous other training opportunities that Ms. Head is investigating:

 - Certified Nursing Assistant
 - Emergency Trauma Technician
 - Millwright Training
 - Driver's License training (Class D)
 - Commercial Driver's License training
 - Heavy Equipment Operator training
 - Welding
 - Electrician apprentice
 - Plumbing apprentice
 - Solar Energy technician
 - Drone licensing program
 - Public Safety Training
 - Small business entrepreneurship
4. Current enrollment numbers were shared with the council. Target number for each program is 12 students.
 - 2 CTT students (2 adults, 6 high school)
 - 10 culinary arts students (5 adults, 5 high school)
 - 3 CNA applications (pending instructor)
5. Director report:

Director Karla Head presented her report to the council, first thanking them for the opportunity to serve as Director of ATC. Ms. Head shared that she has a vision to build on the historical foundation of ATC and expand the current offerings and has a goal to add more stackable courses and short training opportunities. Ms. Head wants to also pursue opportunities to begin a VPSO certified training program at ATC, to assist in meeting the public safety needs within the

region so that trainees potentially would not have to travel out of the region for a prolonged period just to get properly trained.

Ms. Head has been meeting with a multitude of stakeholders since arriving at ATC and is working diligently to gain insight on the most pressing training needs and incorporating those training needs at ATC as soon as possible.

6. Advisory Council Comments: There was extensive dialogue and comments during this section of the meeting, to include the following:
 - a. Lori Henry:
 - i. The emphasis at ATC is on adult training and adult program opportunities
 - ii. It is important to have adults trained and employed within the region
 - iii. She continues to hear success stories through NANA about ATC graduates that are moving up in the corporation
 - iv. Ms. Henry mentioned NWALT infrastructure funding and how it could potentially benefit the district and ATC
 - v. Ms. Henry mentioned that John Lincoln is the new CEO at NANA. She also said that since she is leaving, she will potentially have someone else to fill her spot on the ATC ASC. She offered to assist in informing her replacement about the happenings and history at ATC.
 - b. Margaret Hansen:
 - i. Ms. Hansen stated that it is important we recruit other individuals to serve on the ATC ASC (each seat have an alternate preferably). There are 9 seats available and currently only 7 are filled. She suggested reaching out to NIHA (Chris Collins), NMS, and Ambler Metals, to inquire as to if they are interested in a position on the ATC ASC and asked that current members find an alternate, should they not be able to attend.
 - ii. Ms. Hansen mentioned that it is important that we work through Ms. Walker to work on the Strategic Plan.
 - c. Sam Towarak:
 - i. Mr. Towarak stated that he was appreciative that we could be able to meet again and that he would like to have a strategic planning session soon
 - d. Terri Walker:
 - i. Superintendent Walker added that she would like to have Rob O'Neal at future ATC ASC meetings and present on the latest happenings of the STAR of the Northwest Magnet School and the progress of Readistar
 - e. Other comments:
 - i. It was also mentioned that Teri Billings at Manilaq will be teaching a course on nursing through UAA. Ms. Head will be meeting with Ms. Billings to see if she is available to teach any courses for ATC.
 - ii. ATC Instructor Housing shortage issue was mentioned, and a suggestion was made that we work with the borough to build our own housing since we own the land that ATC is built on. It was further suggested that it would be a great opportunity for our CTT students to help with building housing units.
 - iii. A question was asked about the maximum capacity at the STAR and ATC dorms. {STAR dorm: 40 students; ATC dorm: 45 plus Suite}

7. Adjourned