

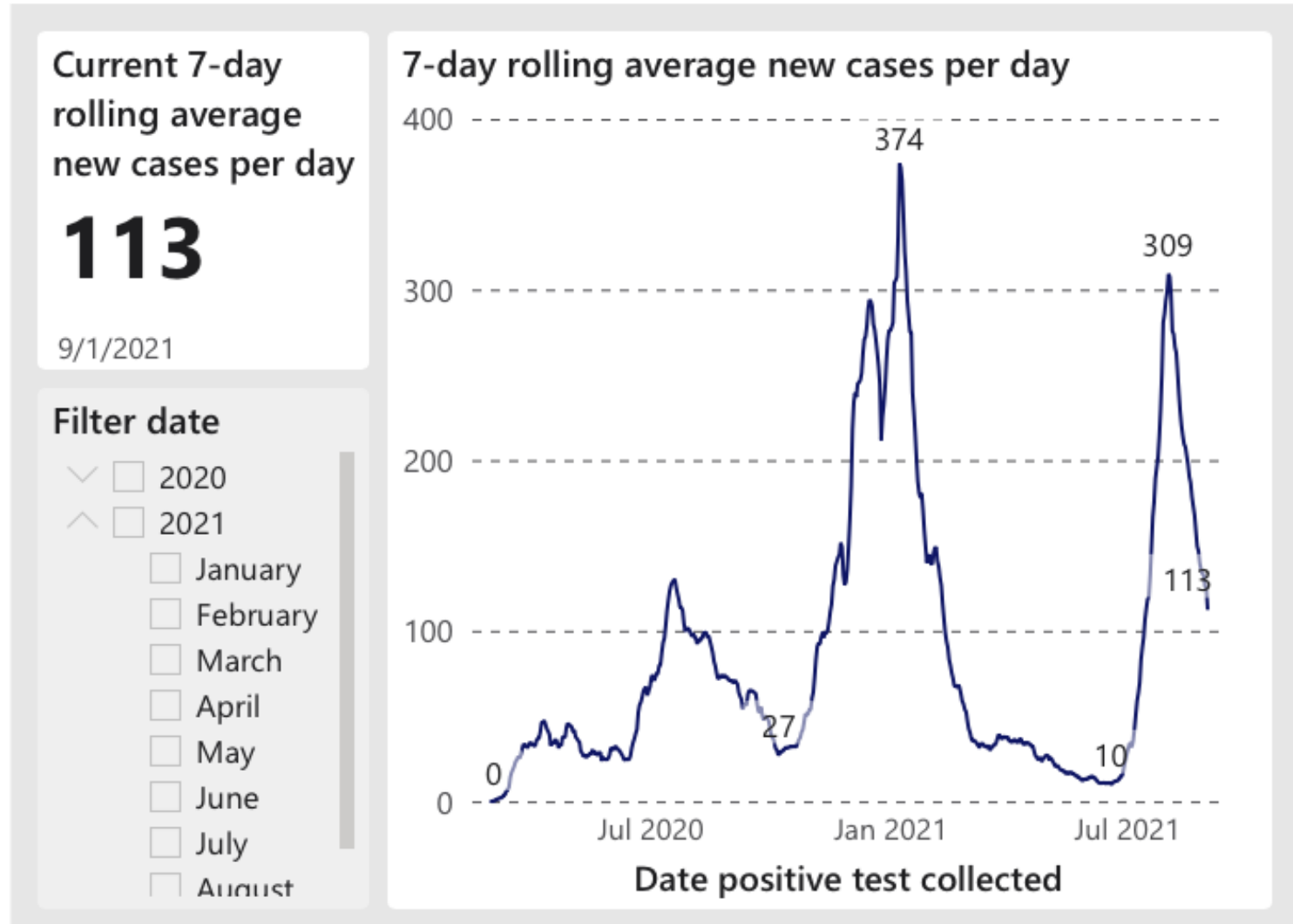
COVID-19 in Children and Youth in San Francisco

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

SF DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

9.10.2021

Current status of COVID-19 in San Francisco



COVID-19 cases in children and youth in SF

- Cases in children are a small percentage of total cases
 - Currently, 11.5% of cases were among children under 18
 - Less than 20% of cases over time
 - Majority of cases in adults
- Serious forms of pediatric cases are rare
 - Most children have mild symptoms or no symptoms
- Majority of pediatric cases are from unvaccinated adult in household

San Francisco Chronicle

BAY AREA // SAN FRANCISCO

New S.F. data shows children haven't been hard hit by COVID even amid delta surge

 **Jill Tucker**
Sep. 9, 2021 | Updated: Sep. 9, 2021 11:42 a.m.

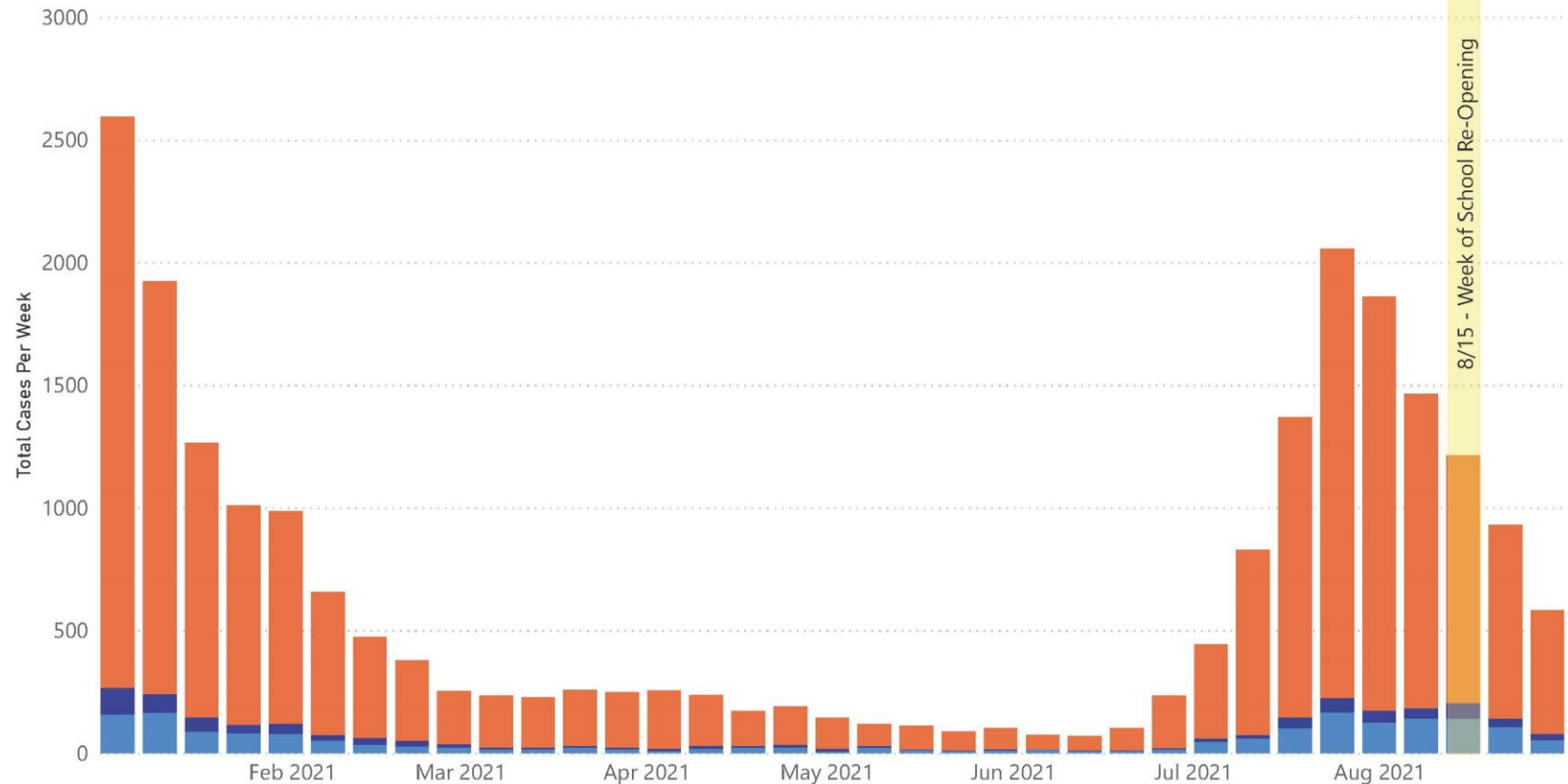




COVID-19 Cases by Age Groups in San Francisco

COVID19 Cases by Age Groups

Age Groups ● 0-11 years ● 12-17 years ● 18+ years

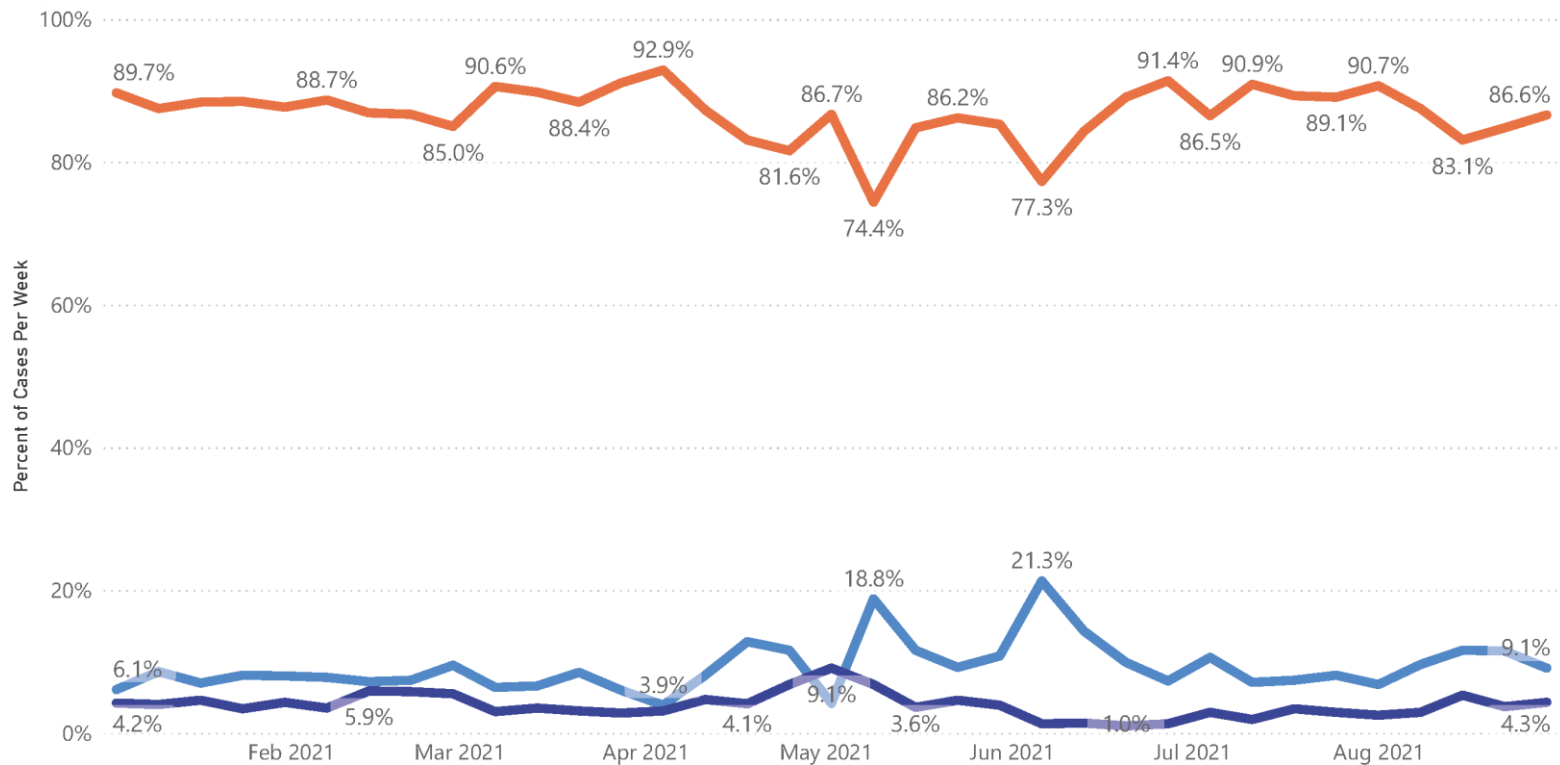


Number of COVID-19 Cases by Age Groups by week, March 1, 2020 – September 4, 2021, San Francisco. The proportion of COVID-19 cases are differentiated by age groups: 0-11 years old, 12-17 years old, and 18+ years old to show trends based on vaccine eligibility.

COVID-19 Cases by Age Groups in San Francisco

COVID19 Cases by Age Groups

Age Groups ● 0-11 years ● 12-17 years ● 18+ years



Number of COVID-19 Cases by Age Groups by week, March 1, 2020 – September 4, 2021, San Francisco. The proportion of COVID-19 cases are differentiated by age groups: 0-11 years old, 12-17 years old, and 18+ years old to show trends based on vaccine eligibility.

COVID-19 hospitalizations in SF youth

- Since March 2020, total of 13 pediatric hospitalizations of SF youth in SF hospitals
- Currently no SF children hospitalized for COVID-19
- Hospitalizations so low that data cannot be publicly reported without concern for privacy and confidentiality

San Francisco Chronicle

BAY AREA

No San Francisco children are hospitalized with COVID, even as pediatric hospitals overflow elsewhere

Julie Johnson, Ryan Kost, Aidin Vaziri

Aug. 14, 2021 | Updated: Aug. 14, 2021 4:08 p.m.



COVID-19 in children: Vaccines

- Current vaccines for 12 years old and older are effective
 - Vaccines prevent hospitalization and death from COVID-19
 - For 12-17 year old, 90% are fully vaccinated
- Adults being vaccinated from COVID-19 protect unvaccinated children who are not eligible yet
- FDA may approve vaccines for children under 12 by late fall or early winter
 - FDA recently asked Pfizer and Moderna to get more data in clinical trials about vaccine side effects for children

San Francisco Chronicle

BAY AREA // HEALTH

S.F. teens are way 'ahead of the curve' on COVID vaccinations. Here's why

 Kellie Hwang
Aug. 12, 2021 | Updated: Aug. 15, 2021 2:37 p.m.



College student community vaccine ambassadors join a community pop-up vaccine effort in partnership with San Francisco's Department of Public Health and UCSF in the Excelsior District of San Francisco, Calif. Friday, June 18, 2021.
Jessica Christian/The Chronicle

TK-12 Schools Guidance

School Year 21-22

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

SF DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

9.10.2021

Safe Return to School

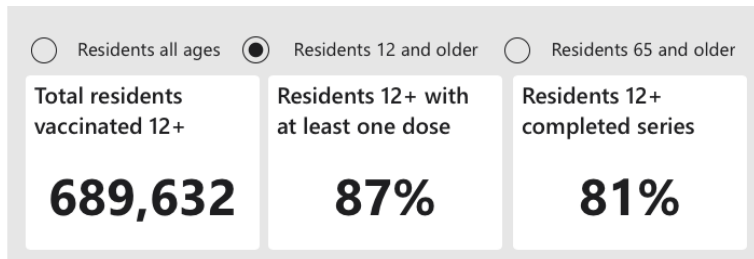
- Schools are a safe place to learn, play, and make friends
 - Risk of transmission is low in schools when safety measures are in place
 - When community case rates are high, we expect to see cases at schools and other settings
 - Guidelines are designed to stop spread of COVID between people at school
- There are more benefits to going back to school than staying home, including:
 - Academic learning
 - Physical and mental health
 - Social and emotional development



Vaccinations

- Vaccines are one of the most effective ways to decrease risk of COVID-19
- Vaccinated adults and teenagers help protect younger children who cannot get vaccinated yet
- Research shows that current vaccines are highly effective in preventing infections and death, even against Delta
 - Vaccinated people 10 times less likely to be hospitalized
- Good news is that 81% of eligible SF population is fully vaccinated, including teenagers in middle and high school
- Call 628-652-2700 or visit sf.gov/get-vaccinated to book appointment for free vaccination

COVID-19 vaccinations



Wear face coverings indoors

- Face masks are required indoors but not outdoors
 - All adults and students must wear face masks indoors at school, regardless if they are vaccinated or not
 - Wearing face masks indoors prevents spread of virus
 - Face masks are not required outdoors because of natural ventilation
- Persons exempted from wearing face coverings must wear non-restrictive alternative such as face shield with drape
- Schools should develop and implement protocols to enforce wearing face coverings



Ventilation

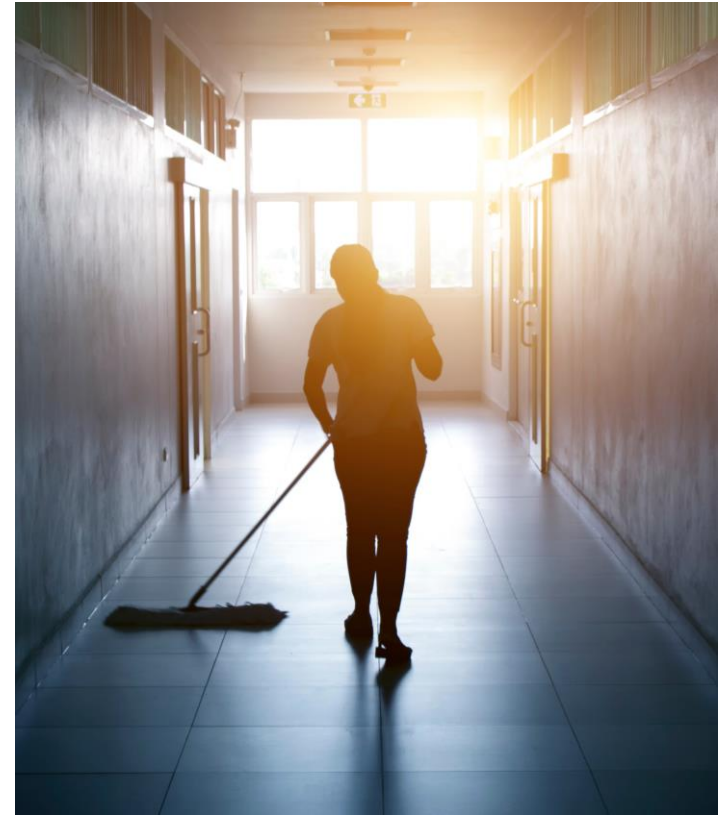
- Schools should use outdoor spaces as much as possible
- When indoors, schools should:
 - Open windows
 - Improve HVAC systems
 - Use portable air cleaners



- **SFDPH reviews ventilation systems at all school buildings, including SFUSD, before the SF Health Officer gives approval to reopen**
- In event of wildfire or poor air quality, schools should prioritize keeping healthy air quality indoors
 - Schools can stay open
 - Schools can temporarily close windows but should maximize other safety measures – portable air cleaners, face coverings indoors, increased hand washing, etc.

When to Follow Pre-COVID Protocols

- Cleaning and Disinfection - unless there is a COVID-19 case
 - Cleaning once a day is usually enough because COVID-19 does not spread through surfaces
 - Disinfection is only required in areas where there was a confirmed COVID-19 case
- With vaccines, indoor masking requirements, and other safety measures:
 - Physical distancing is no longer required
 - Cohorting is not required



Recommendations for Meals and Snacks

- Eat outdoors when space and weather allow
- Space unvaccinated students out when eating
- Food service can resume
 - Schools should clean frequently touched surfaces for meals
 - Surfaces that come in contact with food should be washed, rinsed, and sanitized before and after meals
- Meals do not need to be individually plated or bagged
- Wash hands before and after meals and snacks
- Consider wearing masks between bites and sips



Wash hands or use hand sanitizer

- Students and staff should wash hands or use hand sanitizer often, especially before/after eating and after using the bathroom
- Schools and parents/caregivers should teach and reinforce washing hands, covering coughs/sneezes and not touching eyes, nose and mouth



Stay home when sick

- If students or staff has any of the following symptoms, **do not come to school**
 - Fever or chills
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle or body aches
 - Headache
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Sore throat
 - Congestion or runny nose
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea

What to do when someone is sick at school

- Staff who become sick at work must notify supervisor and leave work
- Schools should send sick students home
 - Students who are waiting to be picked up should be in designated isolation area
- Contact your doctor
- Get tested as soon as possible



Testing

- Greater access to testing through home test kits and health care providers
- SFDPH strongly recommends testing for:
 - People with symptoms of COVID-19 even if they are vaccinated
 - People who are considered close contacts to someone with COVID-19 and have not have COVID-19 in last 3 months
- CDPH and SFDPH requires screening testing for all unvaccinated teachers and staff at schools
 - Either 1x/weekly PCR or 2x/weekly antigen
- SFDPH does not recommend testing for:
 - Students without COVID-19 symptoms or known exposures
 - Staff or students who have had COVID-19 in last 3 months
- **If you are waiting for test results for your child, please stay home until you receive test results**


Find out about your COVID-19 testing options

Get tested in SF

If you feel sick, get tested right away, even if you're vaccinated. If you are unvaccinated and have a known exposure but no symptoms, get tested on or after day 6.

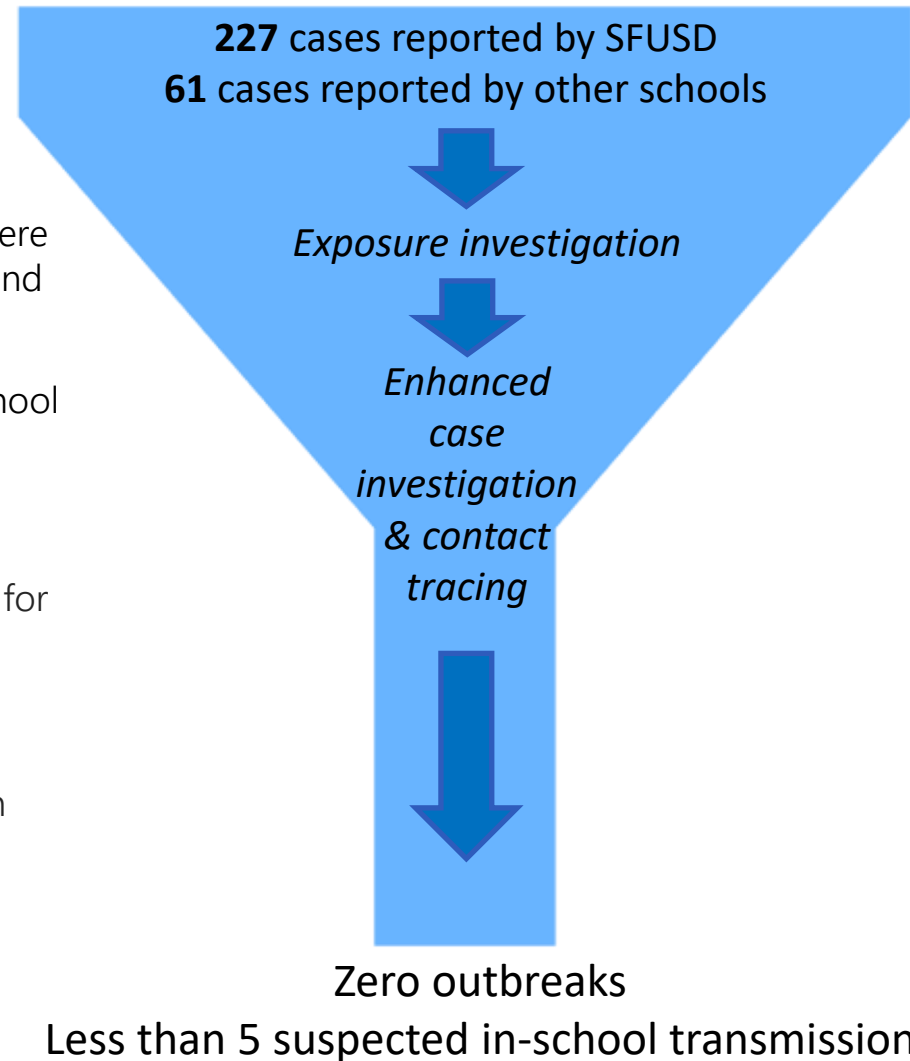
If you have health insurance, schedule a test with your doctor. If you have symptoms or a known exposure, your healthcare provider is required by law to get you a test.

[Map of free & paid sites](#)

A white line-art icon on a dark blue background. It depicts a person wearing a face mask, with a circular frame around their head. To the right of the person is a test tube with a pipette tip resting against it.

School-related COVID-19 data

- Schools remain a low risk environment
 - SFUSD reported 227 cases to SFDPH out of nearly 52,000 students and 10,000 staff (as of 9/8/21)
 - For private, parochial, and charter schools, there were 61 cases out of nearly 22,500 students and nearly 5,000 staff
 - Vast majority of cases occurred outside of school
 - No confirmed COVID-19 school outbreaks
 - Suspected in-school transmission so low, it cannot be publicly reported without concern for privacy and confidentiality
- Same pattern since beginning of pandemic
 - No verified outbreaks in SFUSD last year or in camps and learning hubs this past summer
 - Last school year, only 7 cases of in-school transmission among 48,000 students and staff at all schools



SFDPH remains involved

- SFDPH continuously monitoring COVID-19 conditions and will make modifications if data and science indicate need to do so
- SFDPH actively working with SFUSD to set up vaccine sites at SFUSD schools for Fall 2021
- Dedicated, trained staff to respond to any possible cases or exposures at schools
- Dedicated, trained staff conducting case investigation and contact tracing at schools
- Maintains schools guidance and resources at the following link:
<https://www.sfcddcp.org/infectious-diseases-a-to-z/coronavirus-2019-novel-coronavirus/schools>

Thank you.

Any questions?

You can reach us at Schools-ChildcareSites@sfdph.org