



Additional cases of the significantly more contagious Delta variant were identified in Humboldt County last week. Delta is anticipated to become the predominant strain locally as in the rest of the country, where it is responsible for one in every four new infections, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

As of last week, our positivity rate is about 5.5%, with the state's being 4.4%. Our current ICU availability is 28.6% compared to the state ICU bed availability of 31.2%.

Last week our mobile team vaccinated at the Humboldt Crabs game and went to Rio Dell, Fortuna, Samoa, vaccinating a total of 97 with these outreach efforts. We are continuing to see interest in these clinics. We are still scheduling clinics through the end of the month and into August.

We have fully vaccinated 55% of the eligible population age 12 and over, and about 62% of the eligible population has received at least one dose. A total of 132,657 doses have been administered in Humboldt County. Public Health officials broadly agree that vaccination remains the best tool available to protect against COVID-19. Vaccines are also proving to be effective at protecting against all the variants, including Delta. Given the local increase in hospitalizations in younger people, now is the time for everyone age 12 and older to get vaccinated as the best way to prevent serious illness and death from the COVID-19 virus.

We urge community members to get vaccinated and continue to follow common-sense measures to protect themselves, as well as children and medically vulnerable members of the community.

- Wear a face covering in high-contact situations or poorly ventilated spaces
- Practice good hand hygiene
- Follow safety measures when traveling
- Get tested if you have been exposed, even if you are asymptomatic
- Stay home if you feel sick.

At the beginning of the month, OptumServe moved their fixed site from Redwood Acres to the Wharfinger building in Eureka. Free testing is still available to the community seven days a week, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

