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# MEMORANDUM

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Date: July 1, 2022

To: The Honorable Chair and Members  
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: Jan Lester   
County Administrator

Re: **Pandemic Update**

There were 2,113 COVID-19 cases that were reported in Pima County last week. This represents a plateauing of what had been gradual increases noted across the state and the nation. (Attachment 1) At this time, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is reporting a case rate of 216 per 100,000 for the last seven days.

Hospitalization of Pima County *residents* has been rising during the last four weeks, and was noted to be 60 last week. Overall, Emergency Department visits for COVID-like illness in Pima County hospitals (reporting into the federal syndromic surveillance programs) have been increasing since mid-April (1.5 percent) and are now at about 4 percent. The end of the Governor's Emergency Declaration also ended the hospital requirement to report capacity or COVID-19 related admissions; therefore, a precise quantitation of COVID-related bed use is not possible.

Since the onset of the pandemic, Pima County has reported 3,165,678 diagnostic COVID-19 tests. Testing in Pima County has been trending down in the last four weeks with 10,484 tests performed last week. Diagnostic test positivity, which was hovering at about 3 to 4 percent in April, is now 27 percent. Both the total number of tests and the positivity rate are likely to be lower, given the wide distribution and home use of rapid antigen testing which is not being reported.

Effective, June 30 the State discontinued testing in Pima County at the Ellie Towne Center location. Free low-barrier testing sponsored by the County remains available from Paradigm at its Grant Road and Tucson International Airport location. Additionally, Federally Qualified Health Centers, retail pharmacies and the federal government continue to distribute test kits for self-administration and to offer on-site testing.

The COVID-19 Community Level for Pima County continues to be Medium (or Yellow) Level, based on the most recently CDC risk assessment. Encouraging vaccination and boosting is essential. However, at this Community Level the CDC also recommends: testing and masking should you develop symptoms or suspect exposure; mask use in public transportation and in crowded in-door settings; and masking for older and otherwise vulnerable individuals. It should be noted that at this time, except for the southern portion of the state all other counties including Maricopa and Pinal are at a High (Orange) Community Level.

The Honorable Chair and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors

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### **Test-to-Treat**

On June 23, the Pima County Health Department initiated a low-barrier Test-to-Treat program at our East Clinic. This service, the first of its kind in Arizona, is possible due to the collaboration and support of the Federal Emergency Management Administration which has deployed a team of three Family Nurse Practitioners. The federal team, supported by Health Department staff, evaluates patients and when appropriate prescribes anti-viral medication provided by the federal government.

Testing and evaluation for anti-viral medication is available on site and also through telephone consultation. The service is available 7 days a week with limited hours on the weekends. Starting next week, we will also begin to directly dispense Paxlovid (one of the anti-virals) as appropriate. There is no cost to the patient for the testing, evaluation, or medication. (Attachment 2).

Access to these anti-viral medications has been a challenge in our own community and across the United States. Thanks to this collaborative effort, however, the Health Department has medically evaluated 260 individuals in order to identify 252 for treatment during the first 9 days of operation. Given the relatively scarce nature of this resource, we have communicated its availability to the Santa Cruz and Cochise County Health Departments.

### **Vaccination**

More than 1,958,425 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in Pima County. At this time, 70.3 percent (735,760) of the County has been fully vaccinated. Notably, 74.3 percent of the population 5-years and older is now fully vaccinated. Additionally, 356,005 or 50.3 percent of the fully-vaccinated booster eligible population has received a first booster dose.

Since vaccine became available, we have documented 63,732 breakthrough infections following complete vaccination. This is 8.9 percent of the fully vaccinated population that have developed subsequent COVID-19 infection. Breakthrough cases result in less severe disease and 1.8 percent (12,446) of fully vaccinated individuals have required hospitalization, and 0.6 percent (3,897) have died of COVID-19 related illness.

Vaccine remains abundantly available through retail pharmacies, Federally Qualified Health Centers, other clinical entities, and at our own Health Department fixed and mobile locations. (Attachment 3) With the recent approval of vaccination for children from 6 months to 5 years, new efforts are underway to reach parents in an effort to connect them to vaccine resources.

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### **Conclusion**

Pima County, through the efforts of its Health Department and in collaboration with a myriad of community partners, continues to lead and innovate in our evolving response to endemic COVID-19. Given the increasing case trend heading into the holiday weekend, it is critical that residents protect themselves and each other with vaccination (and boosters), staying home when sick, and masking indoors if you are interacting with individuals not part of your household.

JKL/dym

### **Attachments**

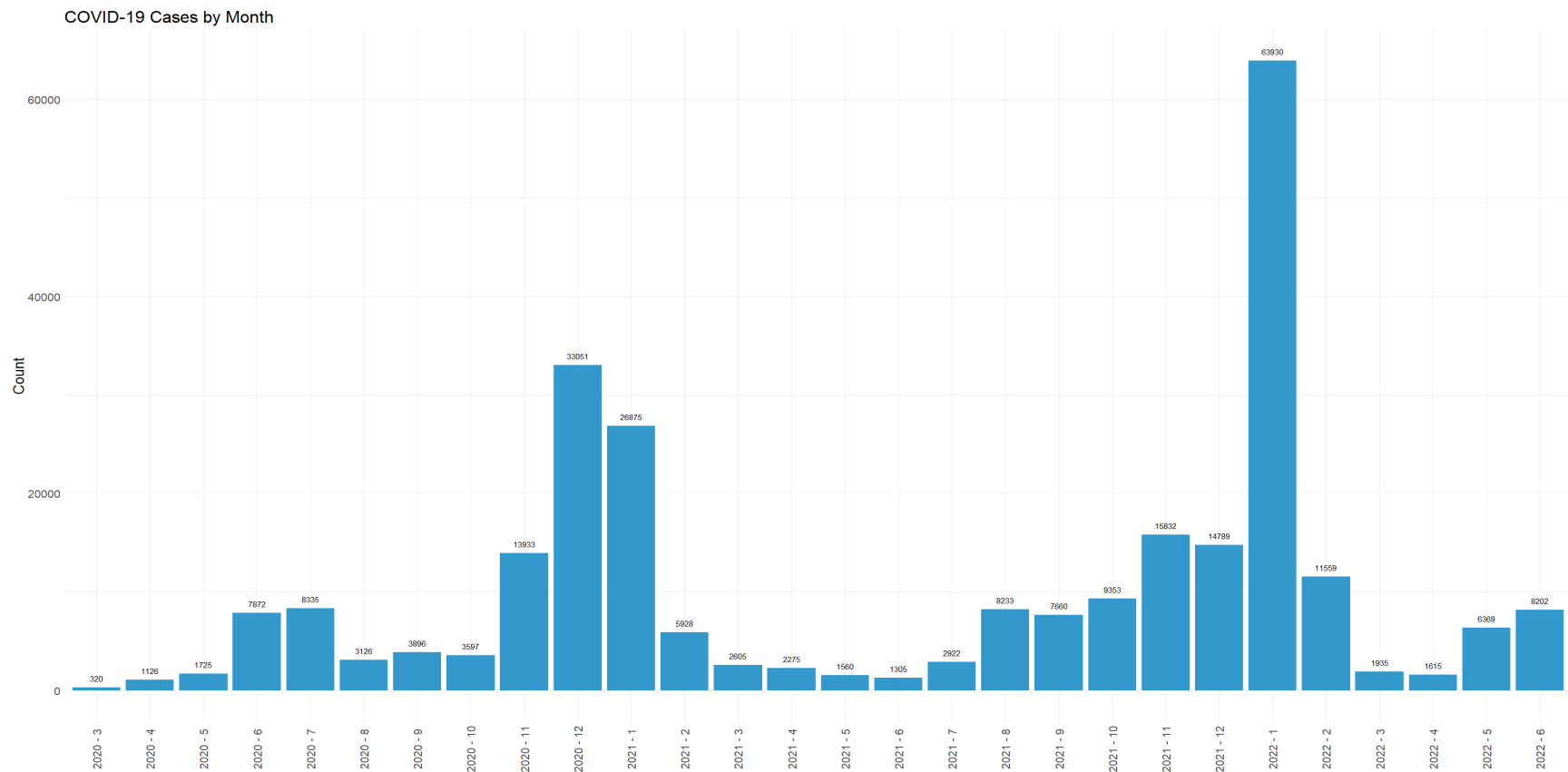
c: Francisco García, MD, MPH, Deputy County Administrator  
Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator  
Terry Cullen, MD, MS, Public Health Director, Pima County Health Department

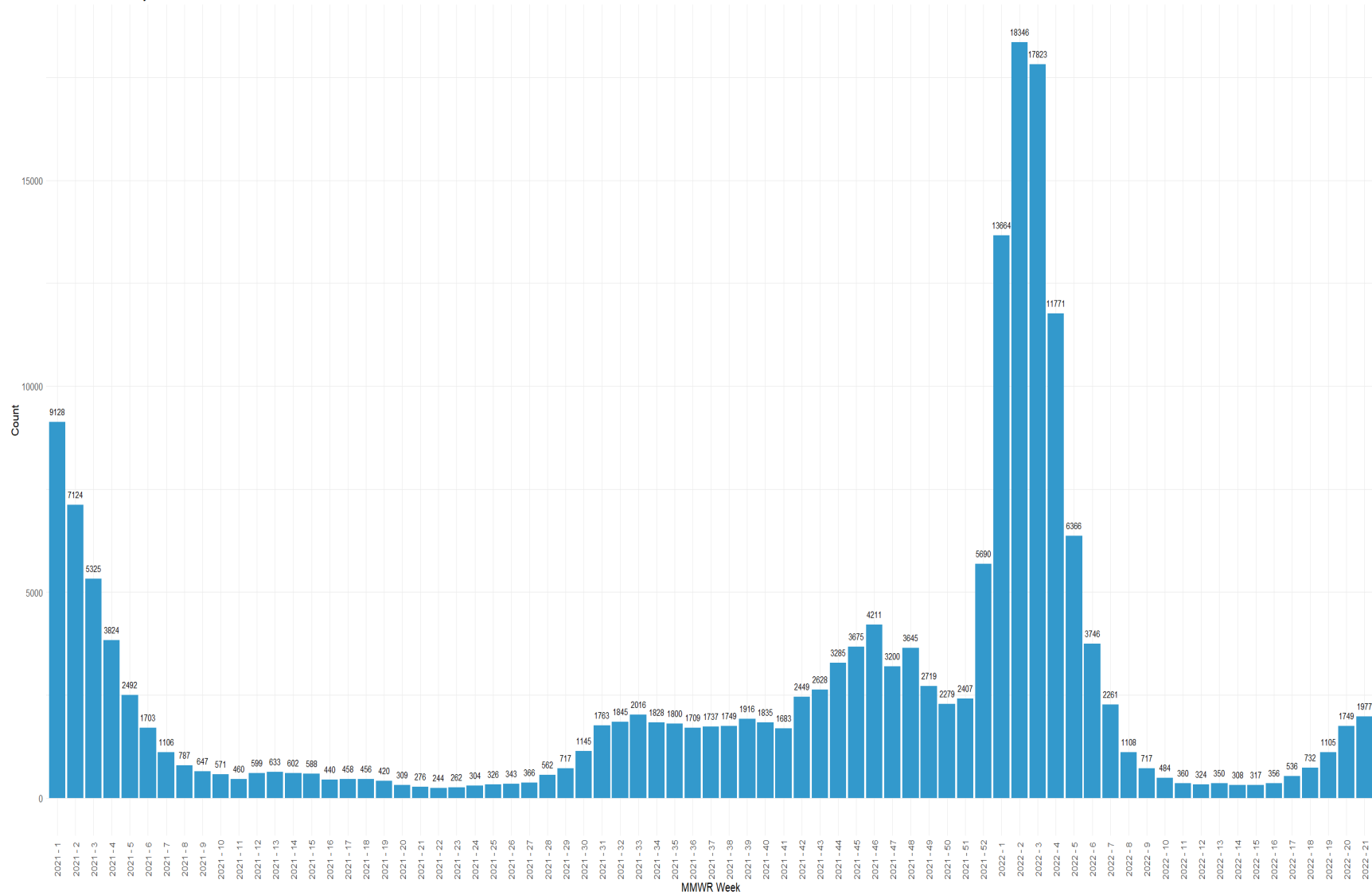
# ATTACHMENT 1

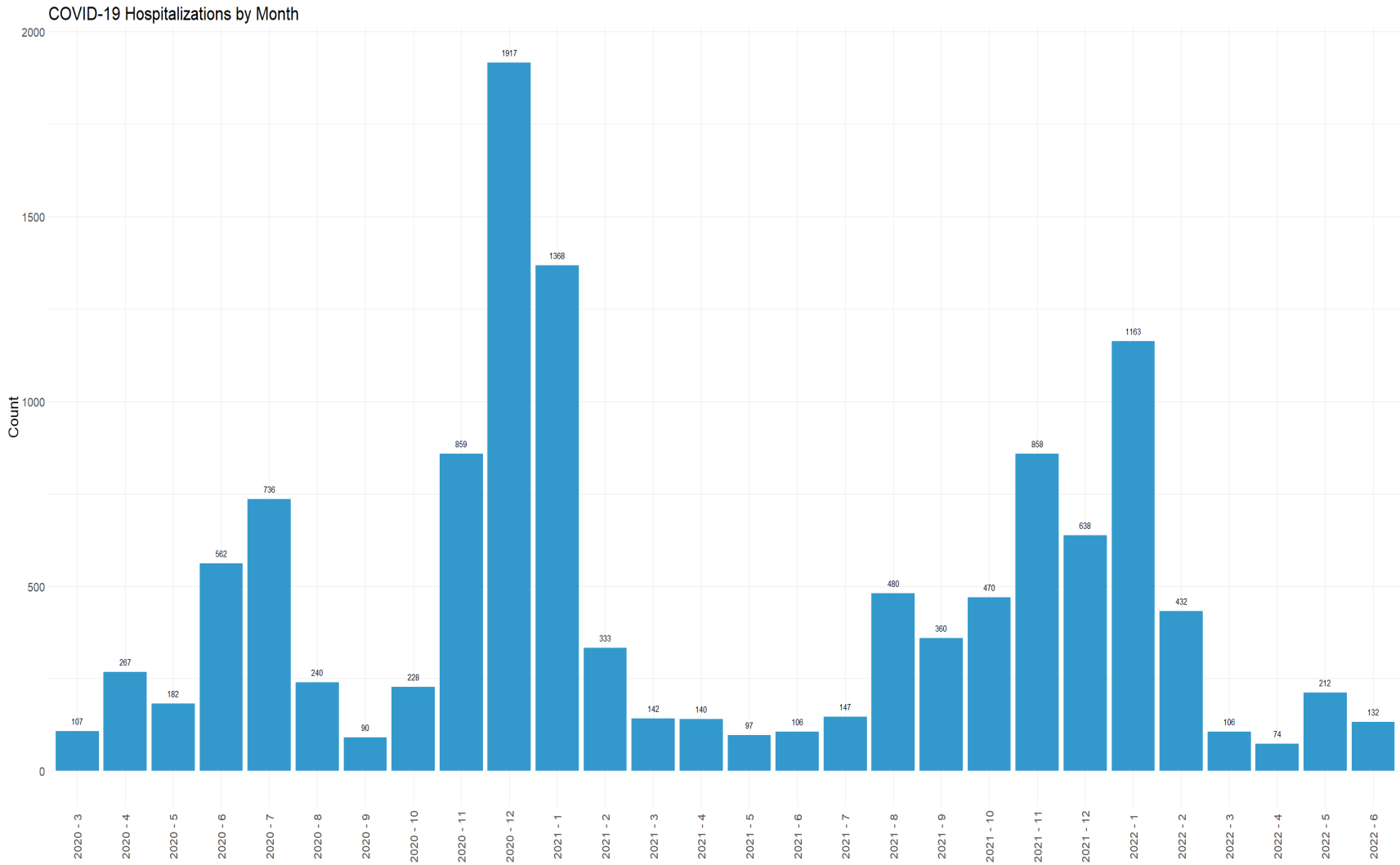
## Weekly COVID-19 Summary

### Cumulative Demographic Report - MEDSIS weekly data

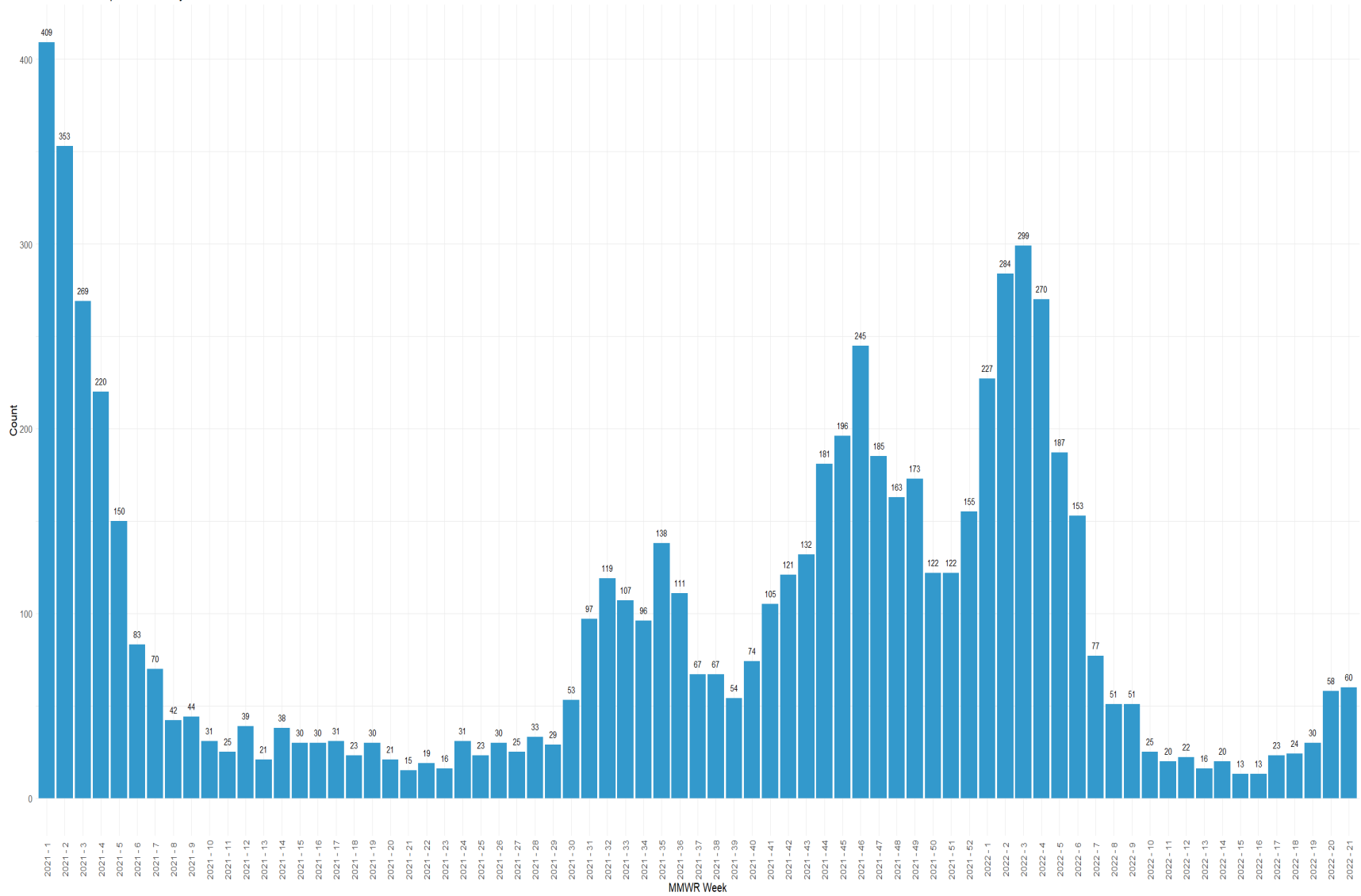
#### Cases







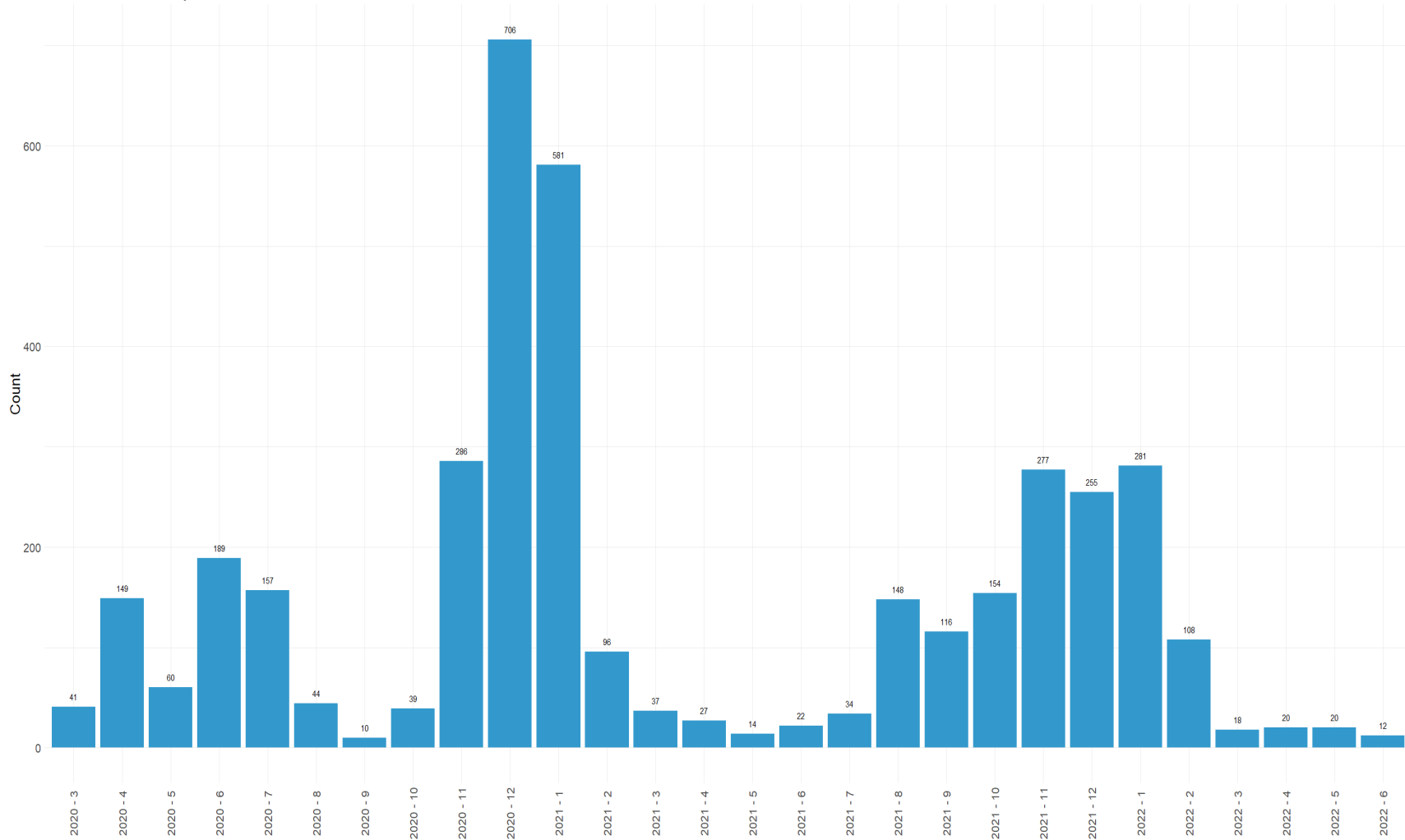
COVID-19 Hospitalizations by MMWR week



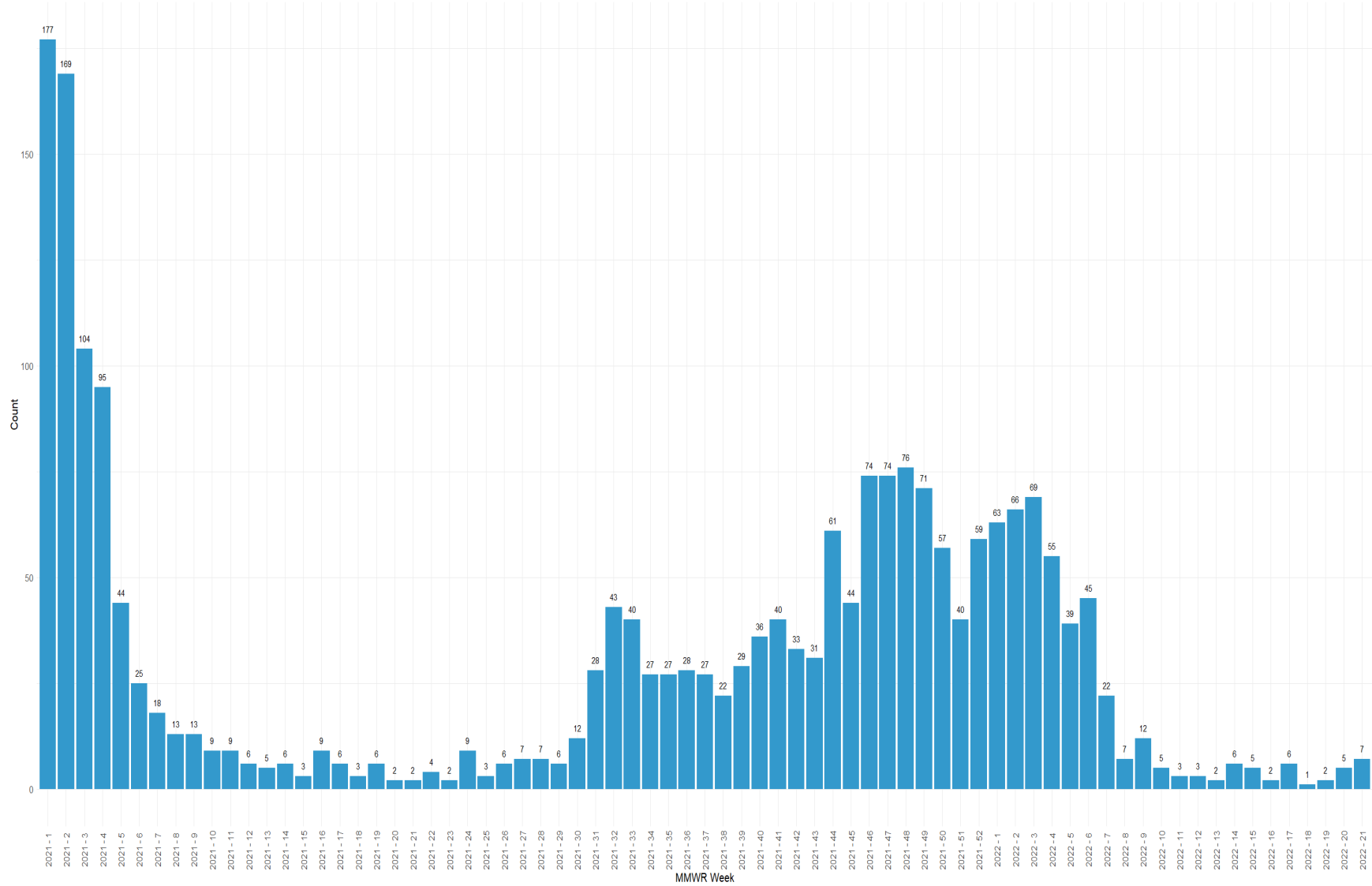


Deaths

COVID-19 Deaths by Month



COVID-19 Deaths by MMWR week



# ATTACHMENT 2



## **If you test positive for COVID-19 ...**

**You may be eligible for free treatment, including through Pima County's Test to Treat program**

### **What is Test to Treat?**

If you test positive (on an at-home test or at a testing site) and meet certain eligibility requirements, you may be able to receive a prescription for oral antiviral treatment. This program is already available at some health care providers and clinics in our community. To increase access, the Pima County Health Department has implemented a free Test to Treat program available to everyone (no insurance card necessary).

You may walk in and get tested at the Health Department's East Clinic and be evaluated by a provider at no cost if you test positive. If you already have a positive test (either a test at home or from another testing site), you can walk in to the East Clinic or call the Health Department at 520-724-7895 to discuss eligibility for treatment and get a prescription if you medically qualify.

The clinic and the phone number will be staffed from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. You will be asked to provide some general information such as your contact information and when you tested positive for COVID-19.

If appropriate, a written prescription may be provided during an on-site visit, or the prescription may be called or electronically prescribed into a pharmacy of your choice.

### **Where is Pima County's Test to Treat clinic?**

East Clinic  
6920 E. Broadway Blvd.  
Tucson, AZ 85710

You are potentially eligible for oral antiviral treatment after a positive test if:

- You are 12 or older
- Weigh at least 88 pounds
- Have mild to moderate symptoms
- Have a high risk of severe COVID-19 illness
- Treatment must be started early to work – within five days of the start of symptoms

### **What are the oral antiviral medications that an individual might be prescribed for COVID-19?**

There are two oral antiviral pills available for the treatment of COVID-19 – Pfizer's Paxlovid and Merck's Lagevrio. Both medications can help prevent severe illness and hospitalization when taken early after symptoms begin.



## **Si da positivo a COVID-19 ...**

**Puede ser elegible para recibir tratamiento gratis, incluyendo por medio del programa de Pruebas a Tratamiento del Condado Pima**

### **¿Qué es de Pruebas a Tratamiento?**

Si da positivo (en una prueba hecha en casa o en una clínica) y cumple con ciertos requisitos, se le puede recetar un tratamiento antiviral oral. Este programa ya está disponible en clínicas de salud alrededor de nuestra comunidad. Para hacerlo más accesible, el Departamento de Salud del Condado Pima ha implementado una clínica de Pruebas a Tratamiento gratis disponible para todos (no necesita tener seguro médico).

Puede ir a hacerse una prueba en la East Clinic del Departamento de Salud y en caso de dar positivo, ser atendido por un médico a ningún costo. Si ya tiene un resultado positivo (puede ser una prueba hecha en casa o en otra clínica), puede visitar la East Clinic o llamar al Departamento de Salud al 520-724-7895 para ver si es elegible para recibir tratamiento y recibir una receta si califica médicamente.

La clínica y el número de teléfono estarán disponibles de 9 a.m. a 5 p.m. de lunes a viernes, y de 10 a.m. a 2 p.m. los sábados y domingos. Se le pedirá su información general como su información de contacto y cuando dio positivo a COVID-19.

Si se considera necesario, se le puede proveer una receta por escrito durante su visita, o la receta se le puede enviar electrónicamente o por llamada a la farmacia que usted guste.

### **¿Dónde está la clínica de Pruebas a Tratamiento del Condado Pima?**

East Clinic  
6920 E. Broadway Blvd.  
Tucson, AZ 85710

### **Puede ser elegible para recibir tratamiento antiviral oral al dar positivo a una prueba si:**

- Tiene 12 años o más
- Pesa al menos 88 libras
- Presenta síntomas leves o moderados
- Tiene un alto riesgo de enfermarse de gravedad a causa del COVID-19
- Para que funcione el tratamiento dese administrarse dentro de cinco días de presentar síntomas

### **¿Cuáles son los medicamentos antivirales orales que se le puede recetar a una persona para tratar el COVID-19?**

Hay dos pastillas antivirales orales disponibles para el tratamiento de COVID-19 – Paxlovid de Pfizer y Lagevrio de Merck. Ambos medicamentos pueden ayudar a prevenir la gravedad de la enfermedad y de tener que ser hospitalizado cuando se toman lo antes posible al comienzo de los síntomas.

# ATTACHMENT 3

**PIMA COUNTY MOBILE VACCINATION SITES**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Start Time</b>	<b>End Time</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Address</b>
7/6/2022	5:00 PM	7:30 PM	Tucson Indian Center	162 N. Stone Ave, Tucson, AZ
7/6/2022	10:00 AM	2:00 PM	Pima County Sheriff's Department/ Adult Detention Center	1270 W. Silverlake Rd.
7/7/2022	2:00 PM	6:00 PM	Iglesia de Dios Comunidad de Amor	2518 S. Plumer Ave.
7/9/2022	2:00 PM	6:00 PM	Iglesia de Dios Comunidad de Amor	2518 S. Plumer Ave.
7/9/2022	5:30 PM	8:30 PM	Reid Park Zoo (Event Garden)	3400 E. Zoo Ct
7/13/2022	5:00 PM	7:30 PM	Tucson Indian Center	162 N. Stone Ave.
7/13/2022	8:00 AM	12:00 PM	Ocotillo Early Learning Center	5702 S. Campbell Ave.
7/13/2022	4:30 PM	7:30 PM	Safford K-8	200 E. 13th St.
7/14/2022	2:00 PM	6:00 PM	Iglesia de Dios Comunidad de Amor	2518 S. Plumer Ave.
7/15/2022	8:00 AM	4:00 PM	Los Ranchitos Opportunity Center	2054 E. Ginter Rd. Room 608
7/16/2022	2:00 PM	6:00 PM	Iglesia de Dios Comunidad de Amor	2518 S. Plumer Ave.
7/18/2022	9:00 AM	12:00 PM	Homeless Vaccine Clinic - Wild Cat Inn	Wild Cat Inn - 1701 N. Oracle Rd.
7/18/2022	9:00 AM	12:00 PM	Homeless Vaccine Clinic - Wild Cat Inn	Wild Cat Inn - 1701 N. Oracle Rd.
7/19/2022	9:00 AM	12:00 PM	Homeless Vaccine Clinic - Wild Cat Inn	Wild Cat Inn - 1701 N. Oracle Rd.
7/20/2022	5:00 PM	7:30 PM	Tucson Indian Center	162 N. Stone Ave.
7/20/2022	8:00 AM	12:00 PM	Summit View Elementary	1900 E. Summit St.
7/21/2022	2:00 PM	6:00 PM	Iglesia de Dios Comunidad de Amor	2518 S. Plumer Ave.
7/21/2022	8:00 AM	12:00 PM	Rivera Elementary School	5102 S. Cherry Ave.
7/22/2022	12:00 PM	3:00 PM	Homeless Vaccine Clinic Goodwill Metro	Good Will Metro - 300 N. 4th Ave.
7/23/2022	2:00 PM	6:00 PM	Iglesia de Dios Comunidad de Amor	2518 S. Plumer Ave.

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<b>Date</b>	<b>Start Time</b>	<b>End Time</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Address</b>
7/23/2022	9:00 AM	12:00 PM	“Backpacks & Boosters” back to school event	1670 E. Drachman St.
7/25/2022	12:00 PM	3:00 PM	Homeless Vaccine Clinic - Sister Jose Women's Center	Sister Jose Women's Center - 1050 S.Park Ave.
7/26/2022	10:00 AM	2:00 PM	Arivaca Community Outreach- Arivaca Fire Department	16091 W. Universal Ranch Rd., Arivaca, AZ 85601
7/27/2022	5:00 PM	7:30 PM	Tucson Indian Center	162 N. Stone Ave.
7/27/2022	8:00 AM	12:00 PM	Blenman Elementary	1695 N. Country Club Rd.
7/28/2022	2:00 PM	6:00 PM	Iglesia de Dios Comunidad de Amor	2518 S. Plumer Ave.
7/30/2022	2:00 PM	6:00 PM	Iglesia de Dios Comunidad de Amor	2518 S. Plumer Ave.
7/30/2022	9:00 AM	1:00 PM	Roadrunner Elementary	16651 W. Calle Carmela, Marana, AZ 85653
8/2/2022	11:00 AM	5:00 PM	Apollo Middle School	265 W. Nebraska St.
8/3/2022	1:00 PM	4:00 PM	Safford K-8	200 E. 13th St.
8/4/2022	2:00 PM	6:00 PM	Iglesia de Dios Comunidad de Amor	2518 S. Plumer Ave.
8/6/2022	2:00 PM	6:00 PM	Iglesia de Dios Comunidad de Amor	2518 S. Plumer Ave.
8/11/2022	2:00 PM	6:00 PM	Iglesia de Dios Comunidad de Amor	2518 S. Plumer Ave.
8/13/2022	2:00 PM	6:00 PM	Iglesia de Dios Comunidad de Amor	2518 S. Plumer Ave.
8/15/2022	9:00 AM	12:00 PM	Homeless Vaccine Clinic - Wild Cat Inn	Wild Cat Inn - 1701 N. Oracle Rd.
8/16/2022	9:00 AM	12:00 PM	Homeless Vaccine Clinic - Wild Cat Inn	Wild Cat Inn - 1701 N. Oracle Rd.
8/18/2022	2:00 PM	6:00 PM	Iglesia de Dios Comunidad de Amor	2518 S. Plumer Ave.
8/19/2022	12:00 PM	3:00 PM	Homeless Vaccine Clinic Goodwill Metro	Good Will Metro - 300 N. 4th Ave.
8/20/2022	2:00 PM	6:00 PM	Iglesia de Dios Comunidad de Amor	2518 S. Plumer Ave.
8/25/2022	2:00 PM	6:00 PM	Iglesia de Dios Comunidad de Amor	2518 S. Plumer Ave.



### PIMA COUNTY MOBILE VACCINATION SITES

Date	Start Time	End Time	Location	Address
8/27/2022	2:00 PM	6:00 PM	Iglesia de Dios Comunidad de Amor	2518 S. Plumer Ave.
9/1/2022	2:00 PM	6:00 PM	Iglesia de Dios Comunidad de Amor	2518 S. Plumer Ave.
9/3/2022	2:00 PM	6:00 PM	Iglesia de Dios Comunidad de Amor	2518 S. Plumer Ave.
9/8/2022	2:00 PM	6:00 PM	Iglesia de Dios Comunidad de Amor	2518 S. Plumer Ave.
9/10/2022	2:00 PM	6:00 PM	Iglesia de Dios Comunidad de Amor	2518 S. Plumer Ave.
9/15/2022	2:00 PM	6:00 PM	Iglesia de Dios Comunidad de Amor	2518 S. Plumer Ave.
9/17/2022	2:00 PM	6:00 PM	Iglesia de Dios Comunidad de Amor	2518 S. Plumer Ave.
9/22/2022	2:00 PM	6:00 PM	Iglesia de Dios Comunidad de Amor	2518 S. Plumer Ave.
9/24/2022	2:00 PM	6:00 PM	Iglesia de Dios Comunidad de Amor	2518 S. Plumer Ave.
9/29/2022	2:00 PM	6:00 PM	Iglesia de Dios Comunidad de Amor	2518 S. Plumer Ave.