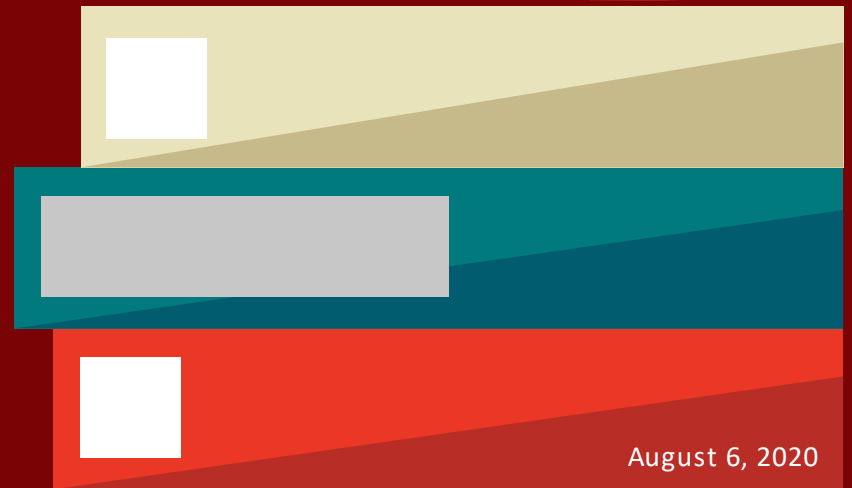


# **COVID-19 Update Including the Metrics to Consider for In-Person Instruction**

Governing Board Meeting  
August 27, 2020



# Safely Returning to In-Person Instruction



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT  
OF HEALTH SERVICES

August 6, 2020

# Benchmarks

There are two key components to reopening school buildings for in-person instruction. First is the quality of the school’s mitigation plan, or the “how”. This plan outlines strategies the school will implement to reduce the spread of COVID-19 among students and staff upon reopening school buildings regardless of the building is open for [onsite support services](#) or in-person instruction. This plan must be adopted, implemented, and posted on the LEA’s website before onsite support services may begin. The second is the level of spread occurring within the community, or the “when”. Both the school’s individual mitigation plan as well as degree of community spread are equally important in determining when it is safe to reopen a school building.

The CDC defines community spread as follows:

**Minimal community spread:** Evidence of isolated cases or limited community transmission, case investigations underway; no evidence of exposure in large communal setting

**Moderate Community Spread:** Sustained transmission with high likelihood or confirmed exposure within communal settings and potential for rapid increase in cases





**Substantial Community Spread:** Large scale, controlled community transmission, including communal settings (e.g., schools, workplaces)

The ADHS further defines community spread levels with the thresholds outlined below. These thresholds are consistent with the national standards set by the Coronavirus Task Force.

Benchmarks	Minimal	Moderate	Substantial
Cases	<10 cases/100,000	10-100 cases/100,000	>100 cases/100,000
Percent Positivity	<5%	5-10%	>10%
COVID-like Illness	<5%	5-10%	>10%

## Additional Considerations for Offering In-Person Instruction

The ADHS recommends county-specific public health benchmarks fall within the moderate or minimal spread category in all three benchmarks for two weeks in order to provide Hybrid learning (some students in physical buildings and some students distance learning). Specifically, ADHS recommends the following benchmarks be met prior to offering any in-person learning:

-  Cases: a two week decline in the number of cases or two weeks with new case rates below 100 per 100,000
-  Percent positivity: two weeks with less than 7% positivity
-  COVID-like Illness Syndromic Surveillance: two weeks with hospital visits due to COVID-like illness below 10%
-  In addition, the Local Health Department may modify a specific benchmark.



## Community Spread Levels & Schools

School reopening plans should encompass four scenarios:

- Traditional - All students in physical buildings
- Hybrid - Some students in physical buildings and some students distance learning
- Virtual - All students distance learning with onsite support services
- Intermittent - Intermittent distance learning based on emergency closures as defined by state and local health departments

The following table combines levels of community spread with the mitigation strategies outlined in the [Roadmap to Reopen Schools](#). This is not a comprehensive list and LEAs should consult the roadmap to ensure their plans include the strategies that will best protect the students, staff, and teachers within their school(s).

Community Spread Level	Delivery Model	Hand Hygiene & Respiratory Etiquette	Enhanced Cleaning	Proper Ventilation (buildings and Buses)	Monitor Absenteeism	Symptom Screening	Physical Distancing (6 feet)	Cloth Face Coverings	Cohorting	Field Trips & Large Gatherings Canceled	Communal Spaces Closed
No to Minimal	Traditional	X	X	X	X						
Minimal to Moderate	Hybrid	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Substantial	Virtual w/ onsite support services	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

## Using the Data Dashboard

The ADHS dashboard will be updated every Thursday for the data covering the two-week period ending 12 days earlier. The table below provides examples using the August and September dashboard updates with the data time period. Dashboard updates will continue beyond the dates in the table.

Dashboard Update	Date Time Period
August 6, 2020	07/12 - 07/18 07/19 - 07/25
August 13, 2020	07/19 - 07/25 07/26 - 08/01
August 20, 2020	07/26 - 08/01 08/02 - 08/08
August 27, 2020	08/02 - 08/08 08/09 - 08/15
September 3, 2020	08/09 - 08/15 08/16 - 8/22
September 10, 2020	08/16 - 08/22 08/23 - 08/29
September 17, 2020	08/23 - 08/29 08/30 - 09/05
September 24, 2020	08/30 - 09/05 09/06 - 09/12

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

# ADHS Benchmarks for Schools






Benchmarks	Minimal	Moderate	Substantial
Cases	< 10 cases/100k	10-100 cases/100k	> 100 cases/100k
Percent Positivity	< 5%	5-10%	> 10%
COVID-like Illness	< 5%	5-10%	> 10%



Initial Reopening % Positivity

**Under 7%!**

To move from a virtual to hybrid model, the recommendation is to wait until there is less than 7% positivity for two consecutive weeks. This provides evidence that there is a sustained decrease in community spread and sufficient testing is available.

 Traditional Learning Scenario 1	 Hybrid Learning Scenario 2	 Virtual w/Onsite Support Learning Scenario 3
All 3 benchmarks in the green category for two consecutive weeks of data.	All 3 benchmarks in the "yellow" or "green" categories for two consecutive weeks of data.	One or more benchmarks in the "red" category for two consecutive weeks of data
<b>Minimal community spread:</b> Evidence of isolated cases or limited community transmission, case investigations underway; no evidence of exposure in large communal setting	<b>Moderate Community Spread:</b> Sustained transmission with high likelihood or confirmed exposure within communal settings and potential for rapid increase in cases	<b>Substantial community spread:</b> Large scale, controlled community transmission, including communal settings (e.g., schools, workplaces)

# Washington Elementary School District Data

## August 20, 2020

Report based on school district: Washington Elementary School District

Overall Risk Level is:

**Substantial**

Recommended Learning Scenario is:

**Virtual w/ onsite support**

### Benchmarks

#### Most Recent Data [1]

Cases Per 100k People	82.50
Percent Positivity	10.37%
Covid-Like Illness	3.00%

#### Prior Week's Data [2]

Cases Per 100k People	131.50
Percent Positivity	14.20%
Covid-Like Illness	4.00%



Source: Maricopa County Health Department



# Washington Elementary School District Data

**August 27, 2020**

Report based on school district: Washington Elementary School District

Overall Risk Level is:

**Substantial**

Recommended Learning Scenario is:

**Virtual w/ onsite support**

## Benchmarks

### Most Recent Data [1]

Cases Per 100k People	68.20
Percent Positivity	9.74%
Covid-Like Illness	3.00%

### Prior Week's Data [2]

Cases Per 100k People	82.50
Percent Positivity	10.37%
Covid-Like Illness	3.00%

Source: Maricopa County Health Department



# Next Steps

- WESD will follow metrics for in-person learning
- Communicate to parents and staff that WESD will follow metrics for in-person learning
- Use the Operations sub-committee to review options for in-person learning
- Modify re-opening plan based on committee work
- Survey parents and teachers at significant metric changes

