Fresno County Department of Public Health COVID-19 Response

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Brief Timeline for COVID-19 in Fresno County

Lessons Learned

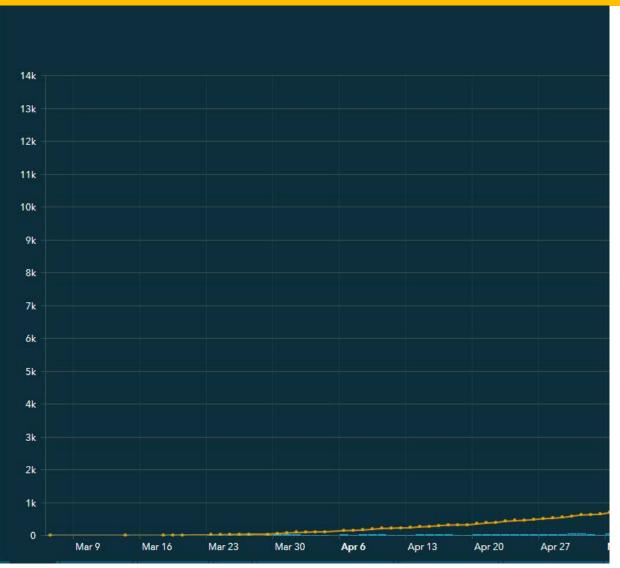
Strategic Health Care Response for COVID-19

March

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	Mar 9	Mar 16	Mar 23	Mar 30

- Emergency declaration by Fresno County
- City of Fresno Shelter in place order
- Statewide Shelter in Place order
- Schools closed and other activities stopped to slow the spread
- Worldwide: COVID-19 diagnosed in multiple countries, cruise ship passengers returning to US
- Testing, quarantine and contact investigations are done by DPH for all COVID-19 cases in Fr. County

April



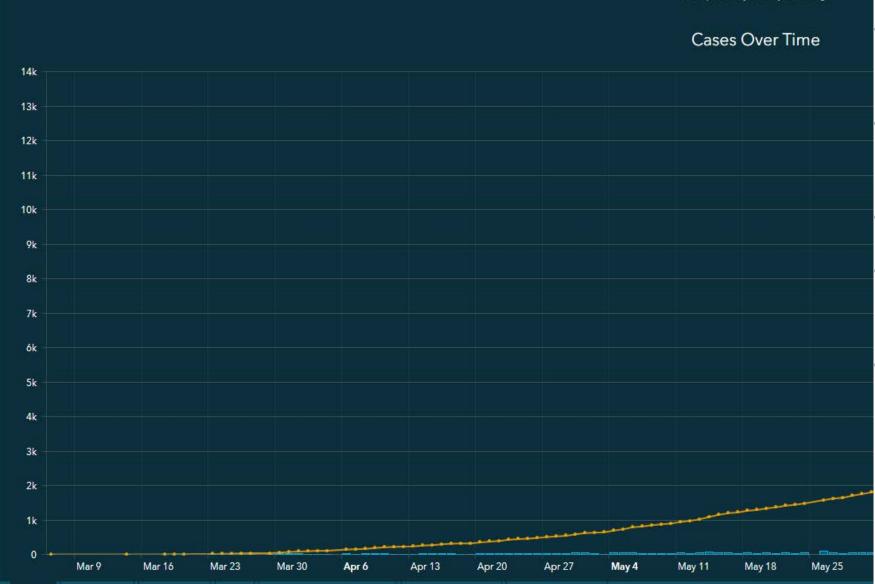
- Curve stays "flat" statewide and locally
- Testing capacity not great but expanding
- Symptom screens and temp checks start
- Workplace screening and monitoring starts
- Hospitals/MDs reporting fewer patient visits
- Governor's Roadmap to Recovery (6 steps)
 - Testing, isolation, contact tracing
 - Protecting vulnerable populations
 - Hospital surge capacity
 - Develop effective treatments
 - Social distancing in workplaces and schools
 - Reinstate stay-at-home orders as needed

Safeguards In Place Before Opening

Process for Staged Reopening



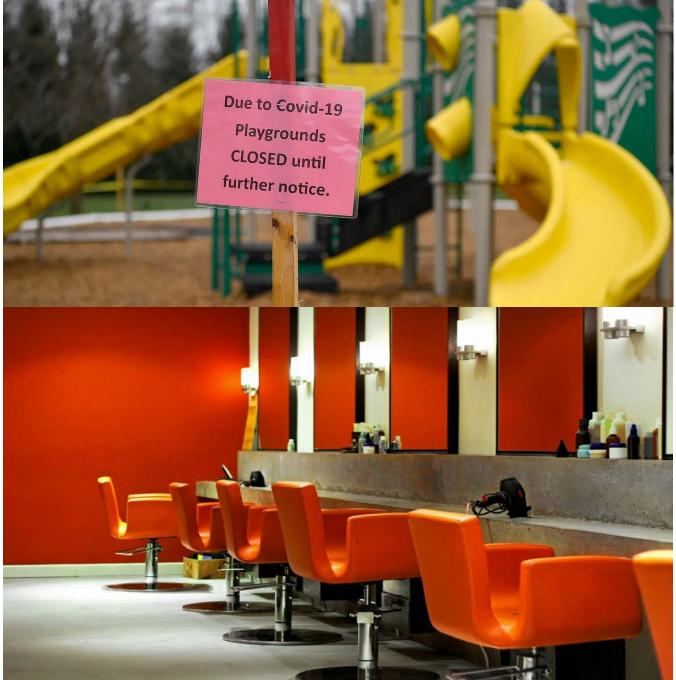
May



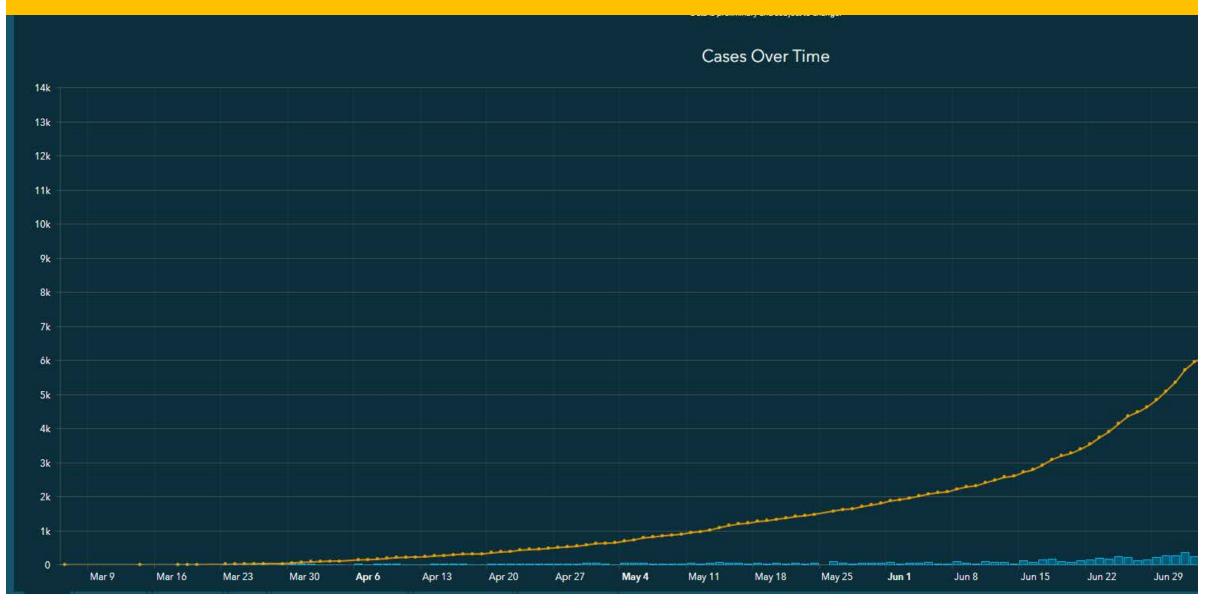
Case counts (and fatalities) keep rising

- DPH testing set up at 2 sites (FCC/ Sanger)
- "Quarantine fatigue"
- Business community anxious to reopen
- Variance Attestation is submitted to allow reopening with a plans for mitigation and containment

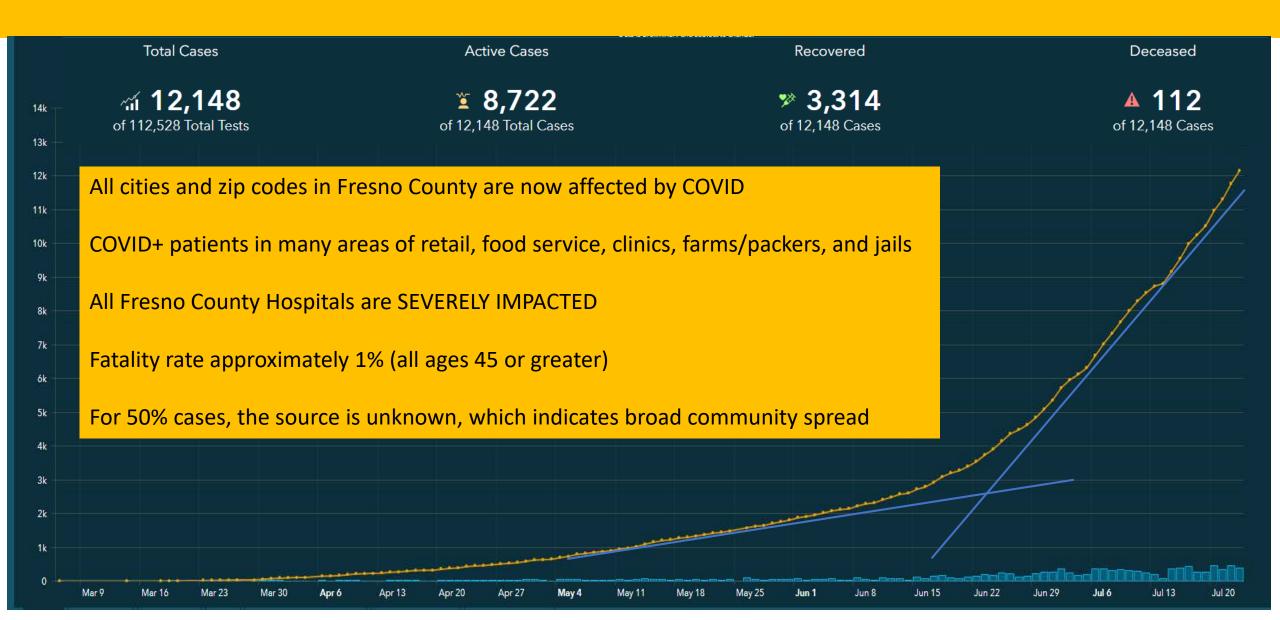




June: Activities (and Cases) Rise More Rapidly



July: The Bend Becomes a Surge Becomes a Disaster



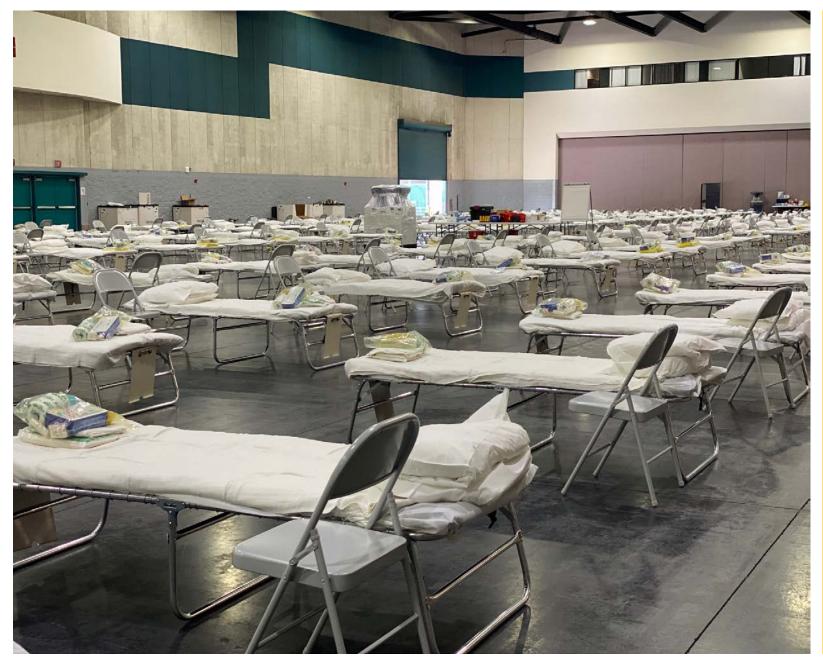
Hospital Capacity is Maxed Out, Staffing is Low, and Tents Are Being Used For Emergency Care Services





History Repeating Itself? LEFT: Oakland Influenza Field Hospital, 1918

BELOW: FRESNO COUNTY ALTERNATE CARE SITE @ Fresno Convention Center Exhibit Hall, 2020

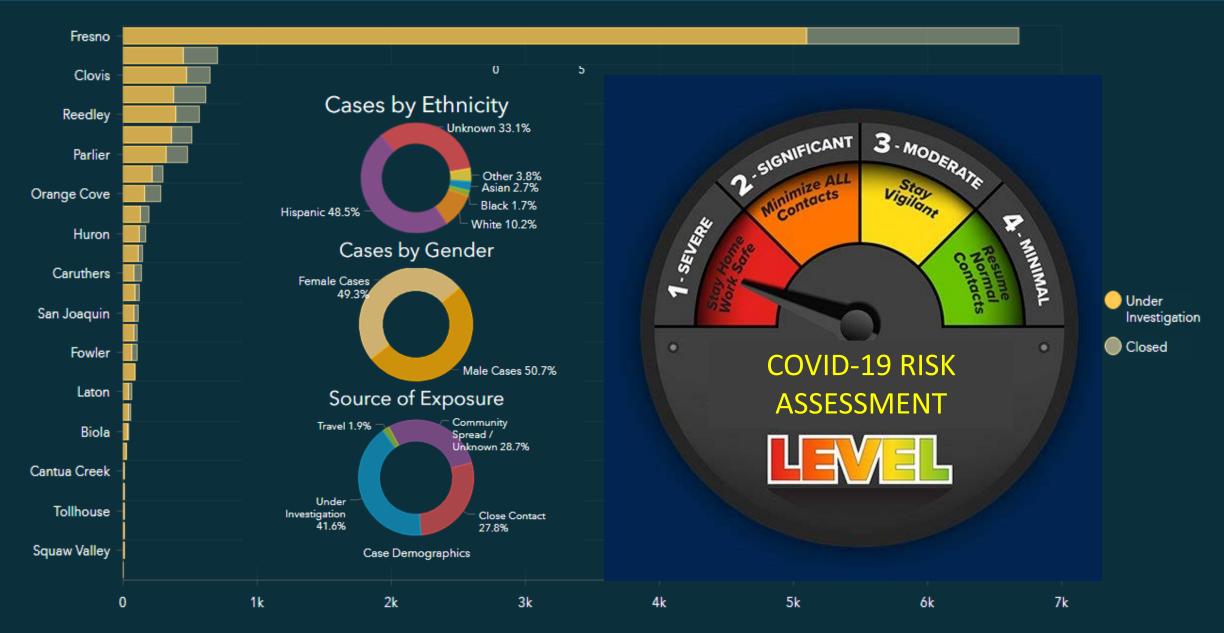


ALTERNATIVE CARE SITE Fresno Convention Center

WHAT IT CONTAINS: Hard metal cots Folding Chairs Toiletries bag (1 per bed) Paper linens First Aid Kits Flashlights Toddler Beds/ Pack'n' Plays

WHAT IT LACKS: STAFFING, privacy, lab, xray

COMMUNICATING DATA TRENDS TO THE PUBLIC: THE STRUGGLE IS REAL



What Have We Learned Through Our Response?

Multiple factors have led to a COVIDrelated crisis for Fresno County

Reopening safely will require a coordination of health policy, prevention education, and public participation in safe behaviors

Young people in crowds spread C-19 most

Rare but serious complications are being seen in the young/healthy demographic

Chronic illnesses are higher risk conditions

Crowded or congregate settings (nursing homes, shelters, jails) and essential worksites are all experiencing outbreaks where virus spreads quickly and silently

Social outings, backyard parties and group social activities all contribute to the spread

Outdoor activity is less risky than indoors

We can respond successfully in two ways:

- 1. SLOW THE SPREAD
- 2. BUILD MORE MEDICAL CAPACITY
- 3. What about the value of effective medications, herd immunity, or a vaccine?
- It will take at least another 6-12 months for proven pharmaceuticals to become routine in COVID care
- Drugs will not reverse every complication in the very ill
- Supplies are-- and will be -- limited for anything worthwhile
- Herd immunity doesn't work for all viruses (HIV, Hep C, etc)

Successful navigation of this crisis is still possible! Communication and teamwork will be essential. Time is scarce, denial is deadly, and failure is not an option

SLOW THE SPREAD & ADD MEDICAL CAPACITY

The virus needs breathing humans to replicate! We can outsmart the virus based on this fact by: -staying home whenever possible -using social distancing outside our households -wearing masks to prevent viral spread to others -cleaning surfaces and hands that harbor droplets -doing as much social activity outdoors as possible - promoting prevention and safety education for all

We can add health care capacity in these ways: -expanding the number of hospital beds and staffing -creating alternative care sites for recovering patients -develop, test, and distribute effective medications -test people with symptoms and deliver fast results -train people to track close contacts of COVID patients -ensure that infected people can stay away from others -creating support services to quarantine successfully

Together, this set of strategies can help us lower case counts and deaths. While none of these is 100% effective, they all work together to help flatten the curve of cases

Our best evidence suggests that, in this epidemic, changes are MOST effective if they are community-wide.

COVID is the Tip of an Iceberg

COVID complications

COVID cases

poor interagency coordination

medical knowledge gaps

undertreated chronic health issues

skilled workforce shortages

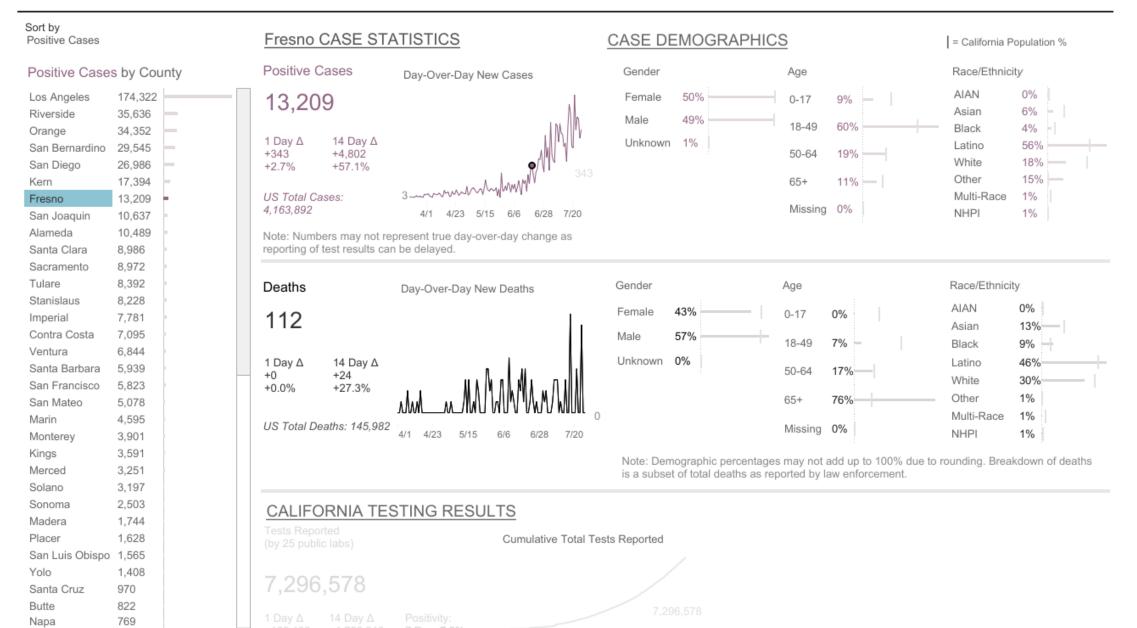
economic fragility

Where Do We Go Next? Our Strategic Plan Fresno County's public health response needs these elements: Prevention Education Prevention Education that reaches ALL County Residents Rational Testing frequently and widely with rapid results Testing Reopening Acute Health Tracing to identify/quarantine those who are high risk Care System (Hospitals, Quarantine Support Services to ensure success with above clinics, ACS) Outbreak Investigation and Prevention in crowded areas Outbreak Tracing Prevention Rational and safe reopening of schools, businesses, etc. Quarantine Support Coordinated Acute Health Response: Hospitals, clinics, EMS and ACS services Continuous reassessment and feedback from stakeholders to refine process

thank you

A.F.D.

COVID-19: Cases



4/1 4/23 5/15 6/6

6/28 7/20

Last Updated on 7/26/2020



Select KPI Positive Patients

