

COVID Newsletter

August 30th, 2021

LeChee Health Facility

3 Miles South Coppermine Road LeChee, AZ

By Appointment Only To Schedule: (928) 689-4900

Monday - Thursday 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM DST

Getting a COVID Test

Sacred Peaks Health Center

6300 US-89, Flagstaff, AZ 86004

By Appointment Only. To Schedule: (866) 976-5941

Monday - Friday 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM MST 1:00 PM - 4:30 PM MST

Tuba City Regional Health Care **Drive-Thru Tent**

167 N Main Street Tuba City, AZ 86045

Monday - Friday 7:30 AM - 4:30 PM PM DST

Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine

• Tuba City Regional Health Care **COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic**

Monday- Friday: 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM DST

Pfizer Vaccine | Age 12 & Older Moderna Vaccine | Age 18 & Older

• LeChee Health Facility

By Appointment Only To Schedule: (928) 698-4900

Wednesdays and Thursdays 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM DST

Pfizer Vaccine | Age 12 & Older

• Sacred Peaks Health Center

Monday - Friday: 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM MST Wednesday: 1:00 PM - 4:30 PM MST Pfizer Vaccine | Age 12 & Older

TCRHCC is now offering third shots of the Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech vaccines to people with severely weakened immune systems only.

We are currently contacting patients and scheduling the following:

- Immunocompromised Individuals
- Solid Organ Transplant Recipients
- Primary Immunodeficiency from medication
- Patients on Chemotherapy
- HIV Patients

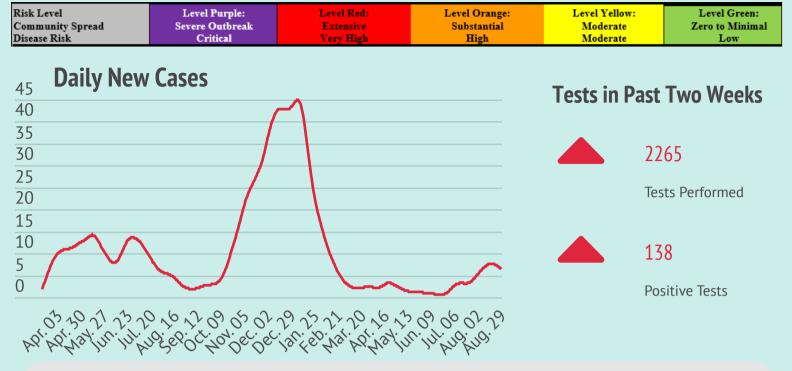
There is no recommendation for boosters or third vaccines for persons outside of these risk groups at this time. Please check back as guidelines change.

Vaccine Facts

- The Pfizer-BioNtech vaccine received full FDA approval on August 23, 2021. It now goes by the brand name Comirnaty, but is the same vaccine we've been using all year!
- All three vaccines are very effective against preventing any COVID infection, though slightly less effective against the Delta variant. Most infections that do occur after vaccination will be mild.
- All three vaccines are extremely effective at preventing severe illness and death if infected with the coronavirus, even from the Delta variant.
- It is impossible to get a coronavirus infection from getting any of the vaccines. None of the vaccines use live virus.
- None of the vaccines alter DNA.
- None of the vaccines affect fertility.
- None of the vaccines change the results of future coronavirus tests.
- All three vaccines have a low risk of severe allergic reaction—less than 11 in 1 million doses for each. All three require a 15-30 minute monitoring period after vaccination.

Pandemic Status

The risk of disease and the severity of the COVID-19 pandemic in our community is defined by the Navajo Nation and TCRHCC according to the five color coded risk levels below.



According to several different metrics, Tuba City and its surrounding communities are currently at Risk Level Red. In other words, considering current case numbers and TCRHCC's capacity to fight the spread of COVID-19, our community is at <u>very high risk</u> of disease.



Tuba City Service Area has been seeing an increase in cases since the 4th of July. Over the last 2-3 weeks, our case rate has climbed even more to the highest we have seen since February. The case increase is mostly related to travel to off-Navajo Nation hotspots and social gathering among families and other groups. The most common variant by far is now the Delta variant in our area. This form of the virus is twice as contagious. It spreads more easily from person-to-person, potentially requiring shorter exposure times to spread and more easily creating so-called 'superspreader' events.

Vaccination, especially with the mRNA vaccines (Pfizer and Moderna), continues to provide good protection against any infection 2 weeks after the 2nd dose. However, we now know that vaccinated people can still catch the virus and can spread it to others. A single dose of Pfizer or Moderna provides significantly less protection against the Delta variant than it has against other variants. Again, these vaccines are STILL extremely effective at preventing hospitalization, severe illness, and death, even from the Delta variant. We also advise avoiding social gatherings with unvaccinated people, avoiding crowds of any kind, mask wear in public, avoiding indoor dining, and limiting unnecessary travel. These are the recommendations even if you are fully vaccinated, due to the uncontrolled spread across most of the US at this time

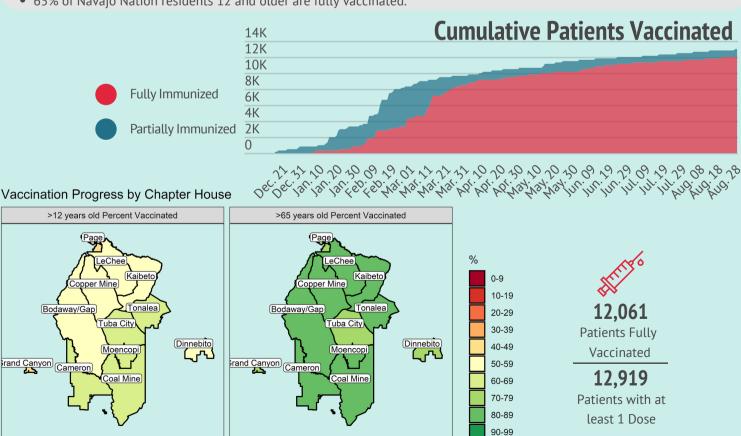
Of those 12 and older who live in the following chapters/communities Tuba City, Coalmine, Cameron, Dinnebito, Lechee, Bodaway-Gap, Coppermine, Kaibeto, Tonalea, and Moencopi Villages and have been seen at least once at any TCRHCC location in the last three years, 62.8% have received at least one dose and 59.5% are fully vaccinated. If you or your 12 and older child is not yet fully vaccinated, TCRHCC highly encourages vaccination now.

Service Unit Vaccination Rates by Age Group



We have seen some (less than 1% of those vaccinated) cases of COVID-19 in people that are fully vaccinated. About 40% of these have no symptoms at all and most of the rest have mild illness. Since February, 13 vaccinated people have been hospitalized here or transferred elsewhere for COVID for short periods and made or are currently making a full recovery. No vaccinated people in our area have been intubated, put on a ventilator, or died of COVID. TCRHCC has had only one case of severe adverse reaction to the vaccine and that person fully recovered. Based on the most recent data from the CDC, unvaccinated people are 25 times as likely to be hospitalized or die from COVID-19. Getting fully vaccinated today is the safest choice.

- 94% of TCRHCC employees are fully vaccinated. TCRHCC is proud to say that by November 9th, all TCRHCC employees, contractors, or volunteers will be fully vaccinated unless they have a medical contraindication (verified severe allergy to a vaccine ingredient.)
- Nearly 350 million doses of Pfizer and Moderna have been given in the US.
- 65% of Navajo Nation residents 12 and older are fully vaccinated.



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