

COVID-19 Data Fact Sheet: April 2020 – March 2023

December 2023

The COVID-19 pandemic has unfolded as a complex and multifaceted global crisis, affecting populations across diverse circumstances. Among those facing unique challenges are individuals experiencing homelessness. The lack of stable housing, coupled with limited access to healthcare resources, has heightened the vulnerabilities of this already marginalized group. This fact sheet aims to illuminate key aspects of the impact of COVID-19 on individuals experiencing homelessness, offering insights into testing statistics, vaccination efforts, and the broader implications on public health. By understanding the specific challenges faced by this population, we can better inform targeted interventions and support systems to mitigate the impact of the pandemic and work toward a more inclusive and resilient community response.

COVID-19 Testing Statistics

Health Center Category	Tested	Tested Positive	Positivity Rate
HCs with 330(h) Funding Only	745,251	41,330 (5.55%)	The population served by Health Centers with 330(h) funding only demonstrated a positivity rate of 5.55%.
All HCs with 330(h) Funding	6,327,802	805,777 (12.73%)	All Health Centers with 330(h) funding recorded a positivity rate of 12.73%.
All Health Centers	23,277,268	3,143,721 (13.51%)	The overall positivity rate for all Health Centers was 13.51%.

Positive Tests by Race

- Asian: 16,957
- Native Hawaiian: 1,611
- Other Pacific Islander: 4,073
- African-American: 120,094
- American Indian or Alaska Native: 8,871
- White: 401,521
- More than One Race: 37,075
- Unreported Race: 114,440
- Unreported Race & Ethnicity: 101,135

* **Note:** The reported positive tests by race highlight the diversity of the affected population.

Vaccination Data

Health Center Category	Initiated Immunization Series	Completed Immunization Series	Additional Dose
HCs with 330(h) Funding Only	1,029,478	1,033,363	780,492
All HCs with 330(h) Funding	3,888,225	3,527,751	1,798,826
All Health Centers	9,832,780	8,820,419	4,455,006

- Vaccination Coverage:** Health Centers have made significant progress in vaccination coverage, with millions of initiated and completed immunization series.

Vaccination Initiation Data by Race

Race	HCs with 330(h) Funding Only	All HCs with 330(h) Funding	All Health Centers
Asian	309,808	395,205	730,916
Native Hawaiian	3,257	6,321	20,857
Other Pacific Islander	2,951	16,254	76,061
African-American	51,036	457,105	1,118,788
American Indian	2,978	22,701	86,575
White	293,281	1,865,353	4,530,898
More than One Race	21,050	146,234	400,231
Unreported Race	228,964	523,644	1,259,712
Unreported Race & Ethnicity	116,153	455,408	1,608,742

- Vaccination Equity:** The vaccination initiation data by race reflects efforts to achieve equity in vaccine distribution across diverse communities.

Vaccination Completion Data by Race

Race	HCs with 330(h) Funding Only	All HCs with 330(h) Funding	All Health Centers
Asian	285,424	369,240	714,020
Native Hawaiian	3,127	6,332	20,903
Other Pacific Islander	2,774	15,802	72,982
African-American	50,437	392,511	1,023,127
American Indian	2,997	21,719	81,680
White	302,587	1,704,881	4,286,460
More than One Race	15,165	127,945	371,369
Unreported Race	228,555	491,859	1,202,003
Unreported Race & Ethnicity	142,297	397,462	1,047,875

- **Vaccination Equity:** The vaccination completion data by race emphasizes the commitment to ensuring all communities receive the necessary vaccine doses for full protection.

The impact of COVID-19 on individuals experiencing homelessness has been profound, exacerbating existing vulnerabilities within this population. The lack of stable housing and limited access to health care resources have intensified the challenges faced by homeless individuals during the pandemic. The communal living conditions in shelters and barriers to maintaining personal hygiene have heightened the risk of virus transmission. Moreover, disruptions to essential services, such as meal programs and outreach initiatives, have added strain to an already marginalized group. The pandemic has underscored the critical need for targeted public health efforts and support systems to address the unique needs of those experiencing homelessness. Efforts to ensure widespread access to testing, vaccination, and health care services for this population are paramount, not only for their immediate well-being but also for the broader community's overall health and safety. As the impacts of the pandemic persist, addressing the intersection of homelessness and health remains a crucial component of a comprehensive and equitable response to the ongoing challenges posed by COVID-19.

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