

Blueprint for a Safer Economy



COVID-19 County Tier Adjudication Request FOR

Requested week for Tier Assignment Adjudication:

Background

On August 28, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom unveiled the [Blueprint for a Safer Economy](#), a statewide, stringent and slow plan for a safe progression of opening more businesses and activities in light of the pandemic. The plan imposed risk-based criteria on tightening and loosening COVID-19 allowable activities and defined a minimum length of time between changes to assess how any movement affects the trajectory of the disease based on a county's disease transmission metrics. As part of this framework, a county tier adjudication process was established to offer local jurisdictions the opportunity to raise questions concerning data discrepancies or other similar errors in the tier assignment process.

A county may submit this form as an official request to enter into a tier adjudication process.

Timing and Processing of An Adjudication Request

Counties must submit their intent to request tier adjudication no later than Monday at 6pm regarding their tier metrics for that week. The full county tier adjudication form & any supporting documentation must be submitted by Wednesday at 5pm. Once a county enters into tier adjudication with CDPH, the county's tier assignment at the time of the request will be held in the current tier until adjudication is complete.

An adjudication process cannot delay a tier change by more than one tier reporting period (the process cannot cross beyond the next Tuesday's tier assignment), and the county will be assigned to the tier determined by CDPH no later than Monday of the following week. If a request for adjudication concerns movement from Tier 2 to Tier 1, schools in the county that have not yet reopened may not reopen during tier adjudication.

The State Health Officer or designee will review and approve the final decision. CDPH will also post the request form and a summary of the final decision on the [CDPH website](#) after the county tier adjudication request package (completed form and supporting documents) and discussion between State and local officials have been completed.

Reason for Adjudication Request- select all that apply and provide an explanation:

- DATA DISCREPANCY:** Using similar methodology for calculating the blueprint metrics, the county identifies a discrepancy between state and local data.
 - Does the discrepancy pertain to adjusted case rate, test positivity or both?
 - Please describe any additional detail pertaining to the discrepancy.
 - If the data discrepancy involves non-ELR data, please refer to Appendix A for instructions on the format and information that should be included as supporting documentation.

Please enter relevant information for States consideration

Other additional justification to be considered:

Please provide relevant qualitative/contextual elements for the States consideration

In addition to your county's completed COVID-19 COUNTY TIER ADJUDICATION FORM, please include:

- Supporting data documentation following the instructions in Appendix A
 - How many separate documents will be provided, excluding this form, in connection with this request: _____
 - Please list names of any files being provided to ensure we have everything you intend to have reviewed in connection with this request:

A completed data summary table (see [Appendix A](#))

Note: if a County is delayed in its submission of required information to inform the adjudication process, CDPH can elect to end or deny the adjudication request.

Instructions for submission:

1. Submit request for tier adjudication to CDPH at countytieradjudication@cdph.ca.gov no later than Monday, 6pm.
2. Submit county tier adjudication form, data summary table, and supporting documents, as separate documents, to CDPH no later than by 5pm Wednesday (within 2 days after the request for tier adjudication was sent) at countytieradjudication@cdph.ca.gov.
3. Data file should be sent encrypted. Does not need to be in zipped files.

I _____ hereby attest that I am duly authorized to sign and act on behalf of _____. I certify that the information provided in the county tier adjudication request is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge.

I understand and consent that the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) will post this information on the CDPH website and is public record.

Printed Name _____

Signature Thomas Boo, MD

Position/Title _____

Date _____

CDPH Determination

Date of Determination: _____

Appendix A:

Format Requested: Excel Files (send encrypted email if contains PHI)

1. Metric: Adjusted Case rate discrepancy- related adjudication

Fields that we need information on:

Test Submitter	Episode Date*	Unique Case IDs	ELR or non-ELR	Test info (positive/negative)	Confirmation of Address (county suffices) of case
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* Data should align with dates used for CDPH tier assignment.

2. Metric: Testing Positivity and/or Volume discrepancy- related adjudication

Fields that we need information on:

Test Submitter ¹	Specimen collection date*	Unique Case IDs	ELR or non-ELR	Test info (positive/negative)	Type of test used (PCR/Antigen/POC)	Confirmation of Address (county suffices) of case
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* Data should align with dates used for CDPH tier assignment.

Download the [Tier Adjudication Summary Table](#) (Excel)

¹ Counties are requested to submit a list of labs that are not reporting to CalREDIE via ELR or CalREDIE compatible csv files. Please indicate if these labs are currently in the process of onboarding onto CalREDIE.

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Form Updated 10/20/20

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Form Updated 10/20/2020

Blueprint for a Safer Economy



COVID-19 County Tier Adjudication

For the county of: **Mono**

Requested week for Tier Assignment Adjudication: 11/10/2020

Summary

Mono County has experienced a dramatic increase in COVID cases in recent weeks, mainly attributable to an outbreak on the U.S. Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center (MCMWTC). About 1,500 Marines from East Coast bases were training at the MWTC. The entire exercise force is restricted to the base. They concluded their exercise during the week of November 9 after which they were directed to return to their home bases out of state. County is requesting not to be placed in a tier based on a case rate calculation that includes these cases.

The base is relatively isolated, located high in the Sierras. At the time of request, county officials had no evidence of community spread stemming from this outbreak, except for a single case—the spouse of a civilian base employee residing in the nearby State of Nevada.

County has a population of 13,961. At the time of tier assignment, County had reported a total of 60 cases with episode dates spanning the 10/25-10/31 data period. The case rate for Mono county at the 11/10 assessment was thus calculated as 61.4 cases per 100,000 population including the cases from the military base. Per data provided by Mono county with the adjudication, for the 10/25-10/31 data week, there were a total of 69 cases reported (of which 60 were among Marines, 2 were trainers on the base who were from the community, and 7 were from the rest of the county).

Military officials put in place measures to restrict movement of base-related personnel in and out of the base (including the trainers from the community) to mitigate spread into the community. Since the trainers from the community fell under the military's mitigation strategy, and were thus isolated from the County's population, it is reasonable to exclude those cases from the case rate

calculations for the County. After excluding the 62 base and base-related cases reported by Mono county, and using only the remaining cases from the county (n=7), the case rate is 7.2 (Purple Tier) but since Mono is a small county, Alternate Case Assessment Measure applies. For county $\leq 35k$ population the threshold for movement from Orange Tier to a more restrictive tier is 14 cases. Since Mono county was within that threshold when military base cases were excluded, they could be held in the Orange Tier.

Similarly, for the week prior if only Mono county cases (n=2) are counted then the case rate is 2.0 and within the Orange Tier and will prevent the county from accruing a week of more restrictive (Purple) metrics.

Determination

Mono County's tier adjudication request to exclude the cases from the U.S. Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center is approved. Mono county will be assigned Orange metrics for Tier Assignment of 11/10/2020

NOTE: On 11/16/2020, due to a concerning rate of rise in cases throughout California, Mono County was moved to Red Tier due to an increase in case rates that that was beyond the small county threshold.

Date of CDPH Determination: 11/18/2020