

Blueprint for a Safer Economy



COVID-19 County Tier Adjudication Request FOR

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.

Criteria for consideration

Criteria and parameters for criteria that will be considered for adjudication are listed below. Criteria can be mutually exclusive.

- Data discrepancy in metrics are significant enough to affect tier status.
- Qualitative and contextual elements specifically provided by the county

A county may submit this form as an official request to enter into a tier adjudication process, and the tier adjudication request form & determination will be posted on the CDPH website.

Timing of 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 & 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 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.

The State Health Officer will review and approve the final decision. CDPH will also post 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.

CDPH will assess the volume of requests for county tier adjudication and will prioritize requests in which tier movement would result in a more restrictive tier assignment.

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.

- Is the discrepancy significant enough to affect tier status?
- Does the discrepancy pertain to adjusted case rate, test positivity or both?
- Please describe any additional detail the discrepancy: data, methods.
 - 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.
- Is supporting documentation included per format requested in Appendix A.

The week of 9/13-9/19, our reported test volume was 190/100,000/day. State median was 216.35, so we were adjusted up in our case rate from 6.8 to 7.2, thereby missing our first week of red tier metrics. We are missing many test reports due to CalREDIE's ability to consume CSV files and other data issues. By using facility line lists of testing, we have counted that 885 results were missing from that week's count. With these included, our volume is 212, which would not have adjusted our case rate above 7 and we would have entered red tier one week earlier. We cannot recover the loss to our business with not opening but can meet the criteria for opening schools fully next week.

QUALITATIVE/CONTEXTUAL ELEMENTS (element):

- Describe the element that the county would like the state to consider.
- Is the element significant enough to affect tier status?
- If pertaining to an outbreak; please describe the outbreak(s) in detail including effective mitigation strategy/efforts.

I would like to add that we just received the adjudication process and have been able to quantitate and confirm the extent of the missing labs in CalREDIE. Because there are so many labs this has taken more time than expected.

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 Many	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/Antig en/POC)	Confirmation of Address (county suffices) of case
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* Data should align with dates used for CDPH tier assignment.

Link to Data Summary Table

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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COVID-19 County Tier Adjudication

For the county of: **Stanislaus**

Requested week for Tier Assignment Adjudication: 09/29/2020

Summary

Stanislaus county requested to retrospectively adjudicate for the 9/13/2020-9/19/2020 data period which would have impacted 9/29/2020 tier assignment. According to Stanislaus county, their reported test volume for the week of 9/13/2020-9/19/2020, was 190/100,000 per day (below the state median). Therefore, Stanislaus was adjusted up in their case rate from 6.8 to 7.2, thereby deemed not eligible for the first week of Red tier metrics.

Stanislaus county reports that they were missing many test reports. By using facility line lists of testing, Stanislaus county estimated that 1,118 results were missing from the 9/13/2020-9/19/2020 period. With these included, Stanislaus County estimated that their test volume would be high enough to adjust their case rate below 7.

After CDPH reviewed the line lists sent by the county, added the 1,118 tests that were not entered in CalREDIE, and re-ran the calculation. CDPH has determined that Stanislaus county would have been placed in the Red tier for the 9/13/2020-9/19/2020 data period with an adjusted case rate of 6.9 and test positivity of 4.1 percent.

Determination

Stanislaus County's adjudication request is approved. Stanislaus's tier assignment for the week of 9/29/2020 will be in the Red Tier.

CDPH determination date 10/25/2020