

Blueprint for a Safer Economy

COVID-19 County Tier Adjudication Request FOR AMADOR COUNTY



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.

Amador County is requesting adjudication of the Blueprint data run for the date range of February 21-27, 2021. The discrepancy pertains to adjusted case rate. Contact Tracing support staff in Amador County that make calls to follow-up on cases for release from isolation do not all have access to enter data into CalREDIE. For three cases, who were contacted to release from isolation, the date of symptom onset (which in these cases was earlier than the test collection date, thus indicating an earlier episode date) was not entered into CalREDIE until after the data run. This was discovered upon internal audit of Amador's data. The 3 incident numbers involved are 48910932, 49204889, and 49357393.

☐ **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.

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: None, cases have been updated in CalREDIE
 - 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 (linked in 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 intent to submit to CDPH at countytieradjudication@cdph.ca.gov at least 48 hours prior to full county tier adjudication package submission.
2. Submit county tier adjudication form to CDPH at countytieradjudication@cdph.ca.gov no earlier than the second week of your assigned tier status
3. Submit the completed form, data summary table, and supporting documentation as separate documents to the email address
4. Data file should be sent encrypted. Does not need to be in zipped files.

I, Rita Kerr, M.D. hereby attest that I am duly authorized to sign and act on behalf of Amador County. 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 Rita Kerr, M.D.

Signature Rita Kerr, MD

Position/Title Health Officer

Date 3/9/2021

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.

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.

Blueprint for a Safer Economy

COVID-19 County Tier Adjudication



For the county of: Amador

Requested week for Tier Assignment Adjudication: **03/09/2021**

Summary

Amador county is requesting tier adjudication due to data discrepancy. Two (2) cases are identified with different episode dates outside of the evaluation period 02/21-27/2021. The county's internal audit discovered that the date of symptom onset was earlier than the test collection date, thus indicating an earlier episode date. However, the information was not entered into CalREDIE until after the March 9, 2021. Blueprint tier assignment updates had not been made in time.

The county provided CDPH with CalREDIE incident IDs to confirm the cases have now been assigned to the correct dates.

The county has been in the Purple Tier for 13 weeks. During the data run for the week of March 2, the County had case rate originally calculated to be 8.2. The county's adjusted case rate for the March 9, 2021 Blueprint tier assignment went up to 10.4. However, placement of these two cases in the correct date of symptom onset would reduce the county's adjusted case rate to 9.6, which would qualify the county to move to a less restrictive tier upon the state meeting the first vaccine equity goal of 2 million doses in the HPI 1 zip code quartile.

Table 1 and 2 below summarize the difference in number cases for each date of the assessment period and the case rate calculations.

Table 1:

Date:	CDPH:	Amador:	Amador Date of Onset Adjustment:
2/21/2021	1 Case	1 Case	
2/22/2021	6 Cases	5 Cases	2/19/21
2/23/2021	5 Cases	5 Cases	

2/24/2021	3 Cases	2 Cases	2/19/21
2/25/2021	4 Cases	4 Cases	
2/26/2021	2 Cases	2 Cases	
2/27/2021	7 Cases	7 Cases	
Total:	28 Cases	26 Cases	

Table 2:

Case Rate Calculations	Calculation:	Case Rate:
With two cases kept in 2/21-2/27 assessment period	$((28/7)*100,000)/38,531$	10.4
With two cases removed and placed in correct time range	$((26/7)*100,000)/38,531$	9.6

In the 3/2/21 data run, covering 2/14-2/21, 22 cases were identified by CDPH due to the corresponding date of onset in CalREDIE. This originally yielded a case rate of 8.2. The addition of the two additional cases placed in this time period would result in Amador County having 24 cases counted for the 3/2/21 Blueprint run. As a result, the new case rate for the 3/2/21 Blueprint run would be 8.9, still below 10. Further, Table 2 demonstrates that when the two cases are appropriately moved to the correct time range, the case rate for the 2/21-27/21 assessment period is also below 10. Thus, the County has had two weeks with a case rate under 10.

Determination

Amador County's tier adjudication request to remove the two cases from the 3/9/21 Blueprint run is approved. County was currently assigned the Purple tier for the 3/9/21 Blueprint Tier Assignment and if applicable, eligible to be reassigned to the Red Tier upon the State meeting its first vaccine equity goal.

Date of CDPH Determination: 03/13/2021