2021

COVID-19 Idaho Data Guide

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What to consider when observing differences in COVID-19 case reporting:

### Cases
- Reporting may utilize statewide data, county data or both
- Counts may include confirmed and probable cases, but oftentimes only confirmed cases
- Some reporting averages cases over the past 7 days while some report daily

### Rates
- Entities use different population estimates to calculate rates - the two most common sources are the US Census 2019 Population Estimates Program and the American Community Survey (ACS) 2018 5-year estimates
- Most entities calculate cases per 100,000 averaged over the past seven days, but some use raw daily or weekly numbers

### Time
- National reporting may differ from local due to the time data is accessed
- Previous days’ data is often not available to compare sources over time
- Data is updated over time as local health districts receive new information and correct the data

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### Days
- The time data is updated each day impacts reporting, particularly when an entity is aggregating data
- Most health districts do not report numbers on weekends
- The timeline shows when cases are counted on any given weekday by each entity

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FOR EXAMPLE:
When you visit Central Public Health's website at 9am on a Wednesday, the Tuesday data reflects cases logged between 5pm on Monday to 5pm on Tuesday

- CDC, Johns Hopkins, and NYT update data daily.
- The data reflects cases at the time indicated.

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The CDC recommends using local data when discrepancies occur.
# IDAHO REPORTING

**Idaho Health Districts**

- All districts update regularly on weekdays, although at different times of day.
- Districts receive data directly from testing facilities or through National Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NEDSS).
- At times, when COVID-19 cases surge, a district may have a backlog of cases to enter into NEDSS.

**Idaho Department of Health and Welfare**

- Updates daily every day at 5pm.
- Uses data from NEDSS for reporting.
- A case is measured when an investigation is filed, rather than when the district initiates a notification through NEDSS.

The NEDSS Base System (NBS) is an integrated data system that enables Idaho to share COVID-19 case data with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

# NATIONAL REPORTING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of Data Utilized for Reporting</th>
<th>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</th>
<th>Johns Hopkins</th>
<th>New York Times</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>County Data</td>
<td>• Total cases in last 7 days</td>
<td>• Total cases</td>
<td>• Daily average in last 7 days</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Cases per 100,000 last 7 days</td>
<td>• Cases per 100,000</td>
<td>• Cases per 100,000</td>
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<td>Statewide Data</td>
<td>• Total cases</td>
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<td>• Cases per 100,000 last 7 days</td>
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<tr>
<td>Source of Data Utilized for Reporting</td>
<td>• National Electronic Disease Surveillance System Base System (NBS)</td>
<td>• Idaho Department of Health and Welfare website</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• US Census 2019 Population Estimates Program</td>
<td>• ACS* 2018 5-year estimates</td>
<td>• Health district websites</td>
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<td>When Updated</td>
<td>• By 6 pm MST</td>
<td>• 10pm MST</td>
<td>• 10pm MST</td>
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<tr>
<td>How Often</td>
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<td>• Daily</td>
<td>• Daily</td>
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*ACS: U.S. Census American Community Survey*