



Public Health

Idaho North Central District



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Tara Macke

PHONE: (208) 799-3100

DATE: August 27, 2021

HEADLINE: Delta Variant Identified in Lewis and Idaho County Residents

Lewiston, Idaho – Public Health – Idaho North Central District (PH-INCD) is reporting that COVID-19 genetic sequencing of specimens collected in Lewis and Idaho County residents have been confirmed to be COVID-19 Delta variant.

Data show the Delta variant is different than past versions of the virus because it's much more contagious and some vaccinated people can get Delta in a breakthrough infection and may be contagious. However, vaccinated individuals represent a very small amount of transmission happening around the country.

With the Delta variant's presence and increased transmissibility, testing remains a very important part of managing the pandemic regardless of vaccine status. Identifying illness early allows people to get proper care and prevent spread to family, friends, and others in the community.

COVID-19 case counts in all counties of PH-INCD continue to rise, mirroring both the state and national trends associated with Delta variant. Although it has been expected that this variant has been present in our communities, this now confirms that expectation.

PH-INCD would encourage residents to follow the latest CDC recommendations for their safety as well as the safety of our communities. It is the hope that with increased vaccinations and established prevention measures, the spread of the Delta variant and others will be halted or slowed protecting your life and that of your family and those in your community.

To reduce infections and to slow transmission of COVID-19, do the following:

- Get fully vaccinated for COVID-19.
- Wash your hands regularly with soap and water or clean them with alcohol-based hand rub.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a mask when in public settings or around others.
- Maintain at least six feet distance between you and people coughing or sneezing.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing.
- Stay home if you feel unwell.
- Refrain from smoking and other activities that weaken the lungs.
- Practice physical distancing by avoiding unnecessary travel and staying away from large groups of people.

For more information about the novel coronavirus please visit
<https://idahopublichealth.com/district-2/novel-coronavirus>
or call our Public Health Hotline at 1-866-736-6632.