

# DS Task Force Monthly Check-In

January 15, 2021

# Housekeeping

- This meeting is being recorded
- Materials are available at: <https://www.dds.ca.gov/initiatives/ds-task-force/>
- ASL interpreters have been “Spotlighted”
- Interpretación en español: haga clic en el globo blanco en la parte inferior de la pantalla con la etiqueta "Interpretation." Luego haga clic en “Spanish” y seleccione "Mute original audio.”
- Providing Comments
  - **DS Task Force Members:** Please use the “Chat” feature or “Raise Hand” - found by clicking “Participants.” A new window will open and “Raise Hand” will be at the bottom
  - **Members of the Public:** Please use the Q&A feature at the bottom of your screen.
    - DDS staff are monitoring and responding as necessary. Please let DDS staff respond to these comments/questions

# Agenda

## **Welcome**

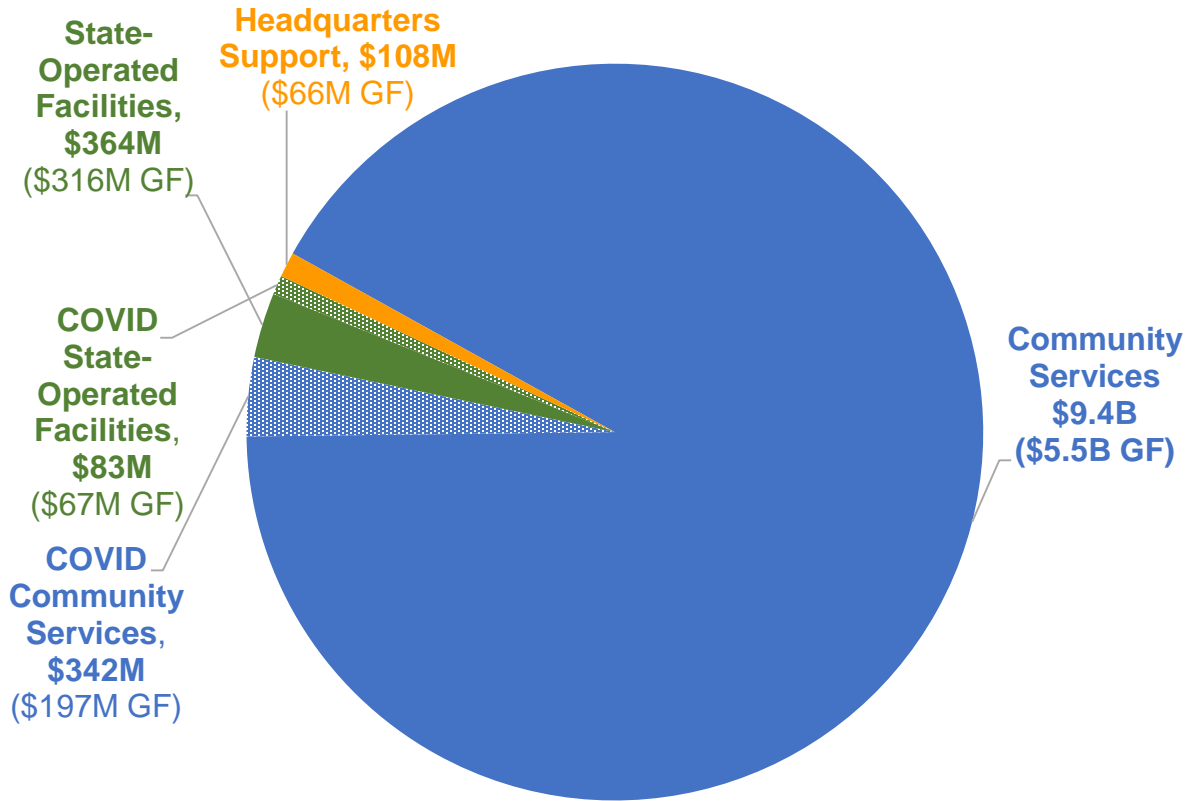
## **DDS Updates**

- Governor's Budget
- COVID-19
  - Data
  - Vaccine Information
  - COVID-19 Testing - Regional Centers
- Self-Advocate and Family Survey

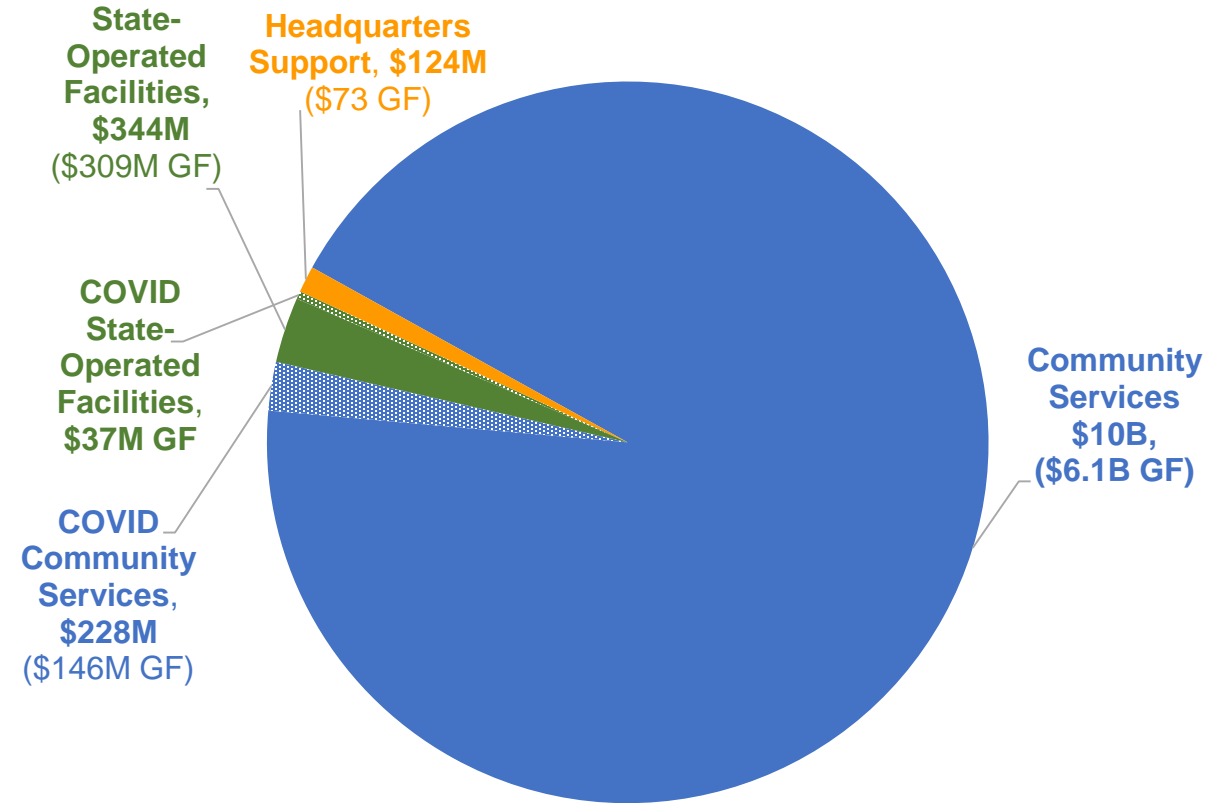
# Budget Update

# DDS Funding

**Updated 2020-21 Budget  
\$9.8B**



**2021-22 Budget  
\$10.5B**



Note: May not reflect exact amounts due to rounding.

# Regional Center Highlights (Current Year 2020-21)

**\$9.4B (\$5.5B GF)**

Updated – reflecting a \$56M TF (\$64M GF) increase compared to the enacted budget

- Impacts of COVID-19 is main driver
  - Increased costs related to supporting people spending more time where they live; such respite and residential costs
  - Development and usage of “surge” sites for individuals who are COVID-positive or exposed to COVID-19

# Regional Center Highlights (Budget Year 2021-22)

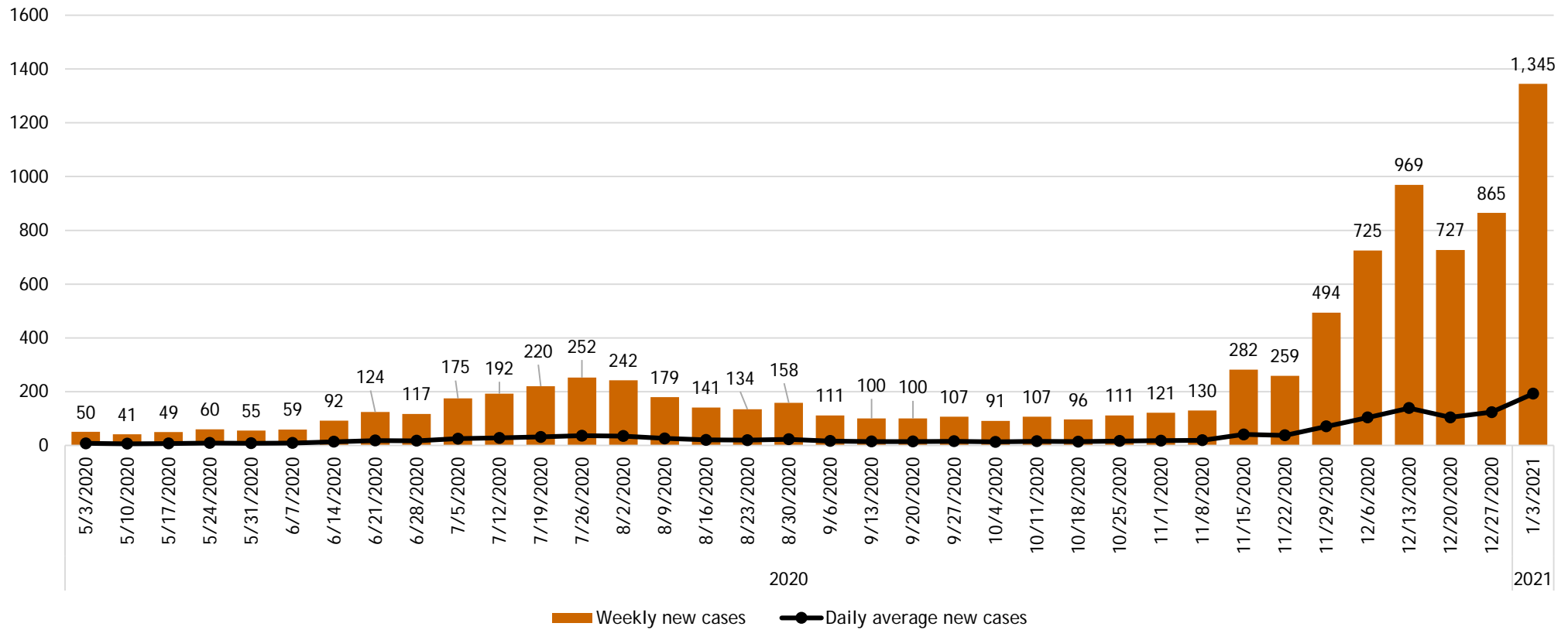
## **\$10B (\$6.1B GF)**

- Caseload increase
- Extend provider supplemental rate increases to December 31, 2022
- Extend suspension of Uniform Holiday Schedule to December 31, 2022
- Community Navigator Program
- Independent evaluation of service access and equity grant funds
- RC emergency preparedness/response coordinators
- Foster youth support, including those returning from out of state
- Expansion of Systemic, Therapeutic, Assessment, Resources, and Treatment (START) services
- Supports for consumers involved with the criminal justice system

# COVID-19 Update

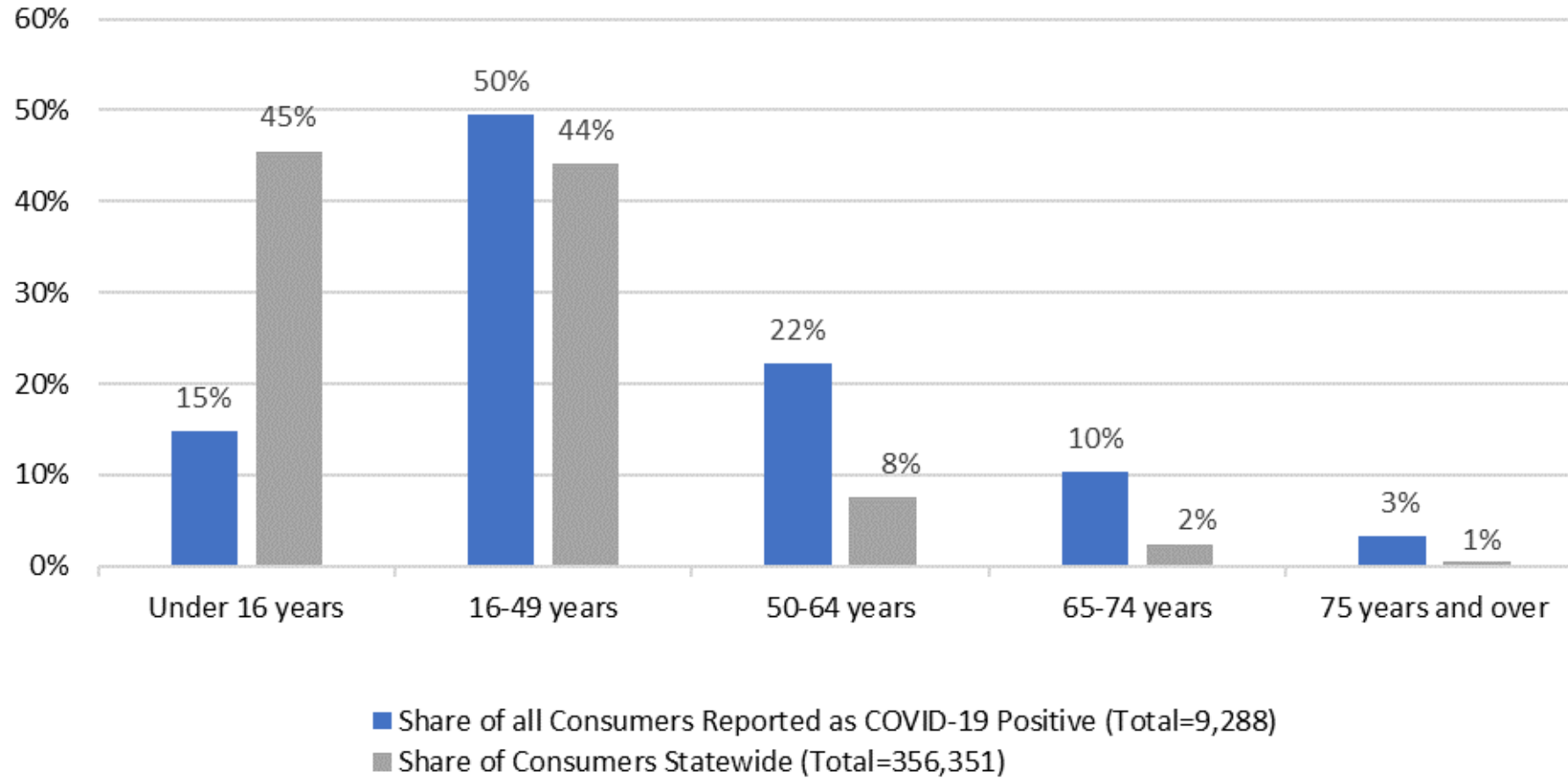


# Statewide COVID-19 Update (May 2020 – January 2021)



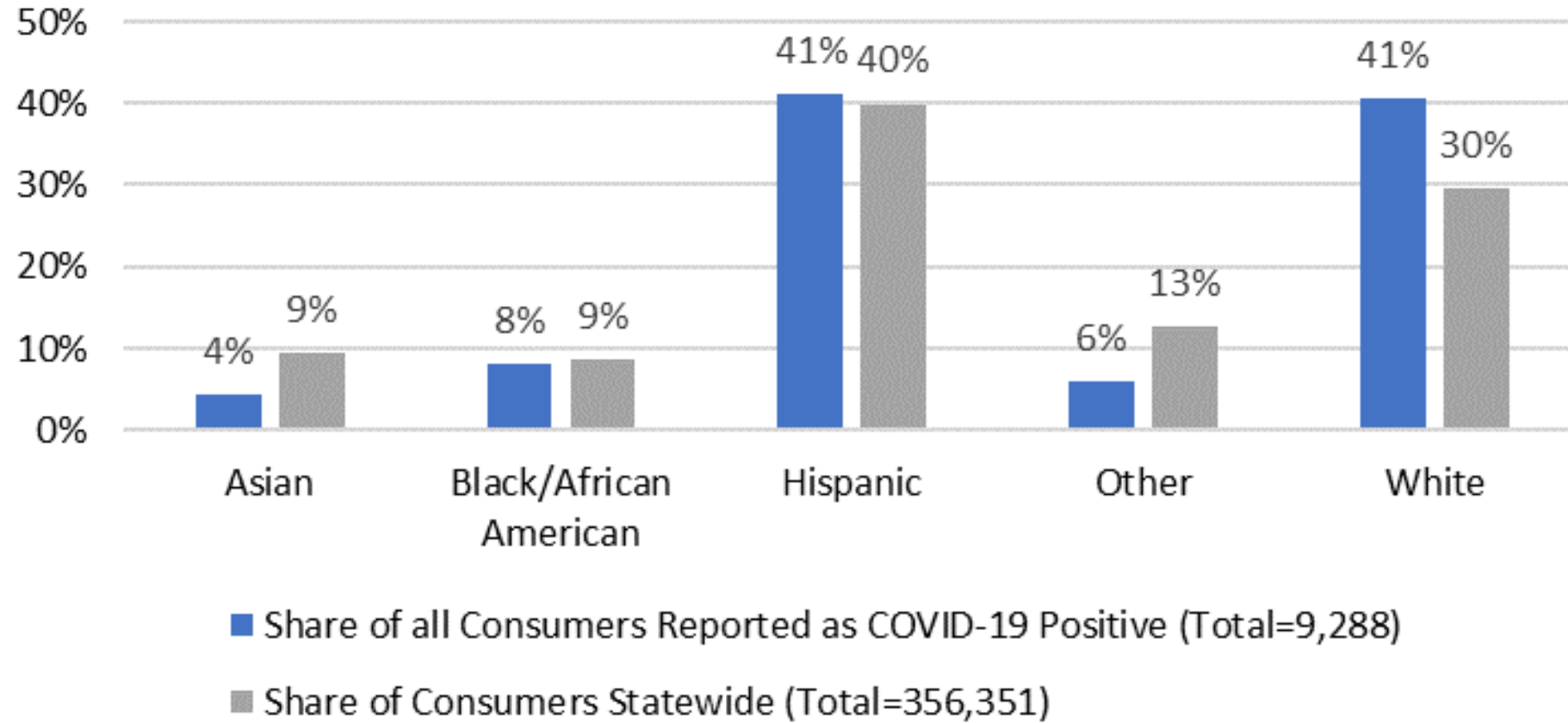
Note. Weekly data reflects regional center reports as of 1/11/21; weeks start on Sunday.

## Number of Consumers Reported as COVID-19 Positive by Age Group

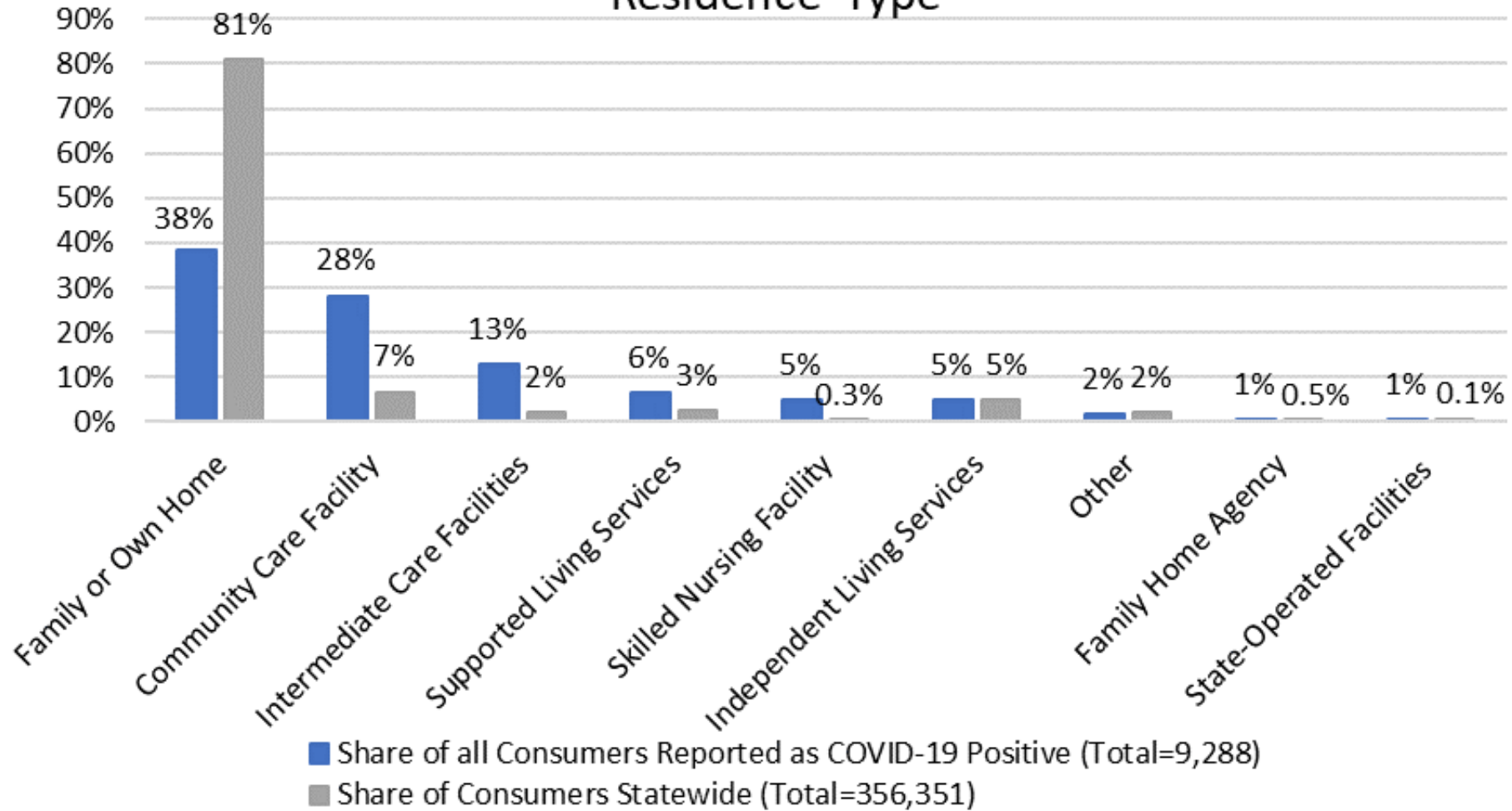


Data as of 1/8/21

## Number of Consumers Reported as COVID-19 Positive by Ethnicity

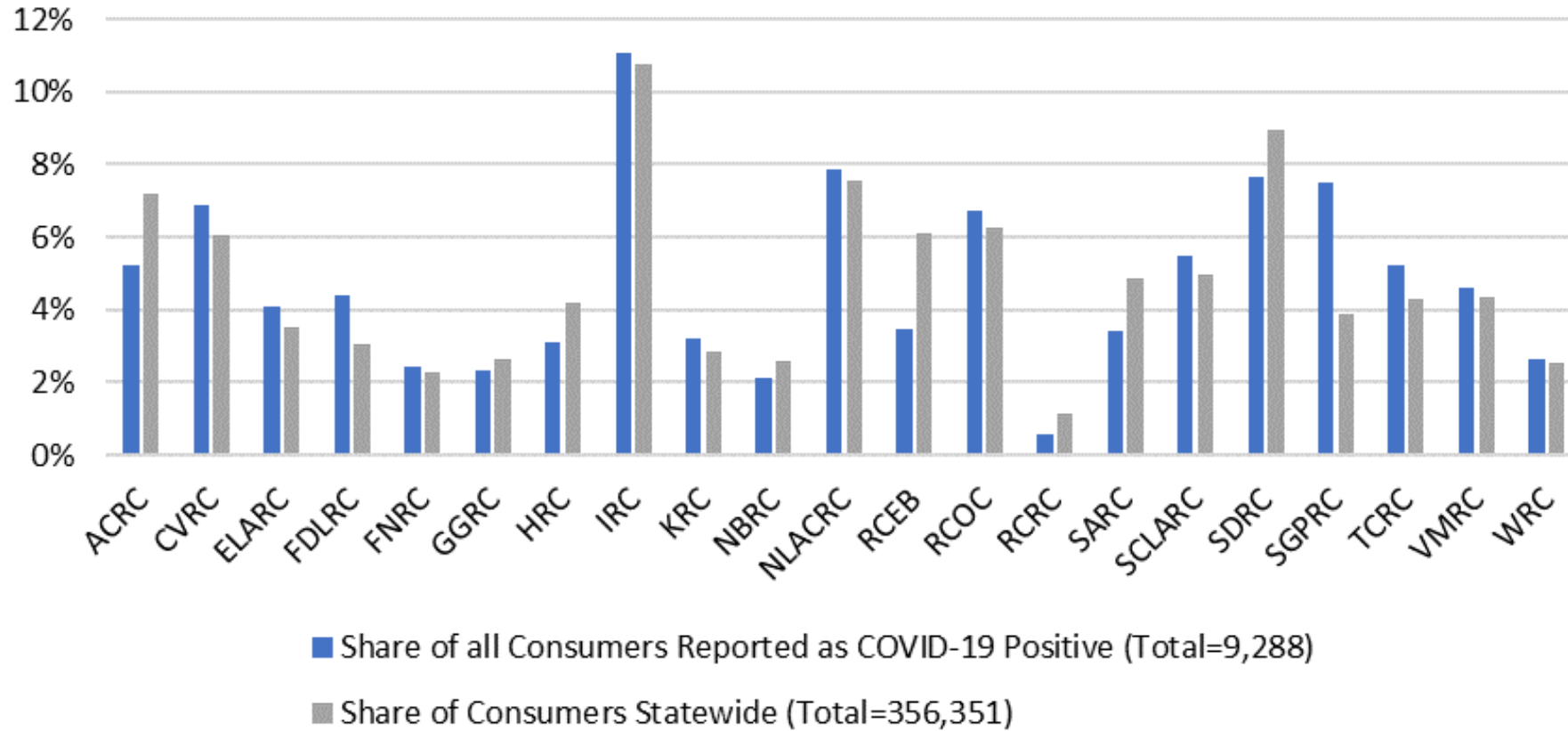


## Number of Consumers Reported as COVID-19 Positive by Residence Type



Data as of 1/8/21

## Number of Consumers Reported as COVID-19 Positive by Regional Center



Data as of 1/8/21

# Recent COVID-19 Interventions & Strategies

## Directives/Guidance Issued

- Holiday message about the importance of protecting loved ones during the pandemic
- Authorize increased reimbursement rate for overtime hours for Participant-Directed Respite Services
- Establish 24-hour Supported Living Services rate when quarantine/isolation is necessary
- Vaccine Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) and DDS letters

# Recent COVID-19 Interventions & Strategies (Continued)

- Re-activated FDC and PDC surge to support individuals COVID positive
- Fit Test Kits for RC service providers to improve PPE effectiveness
- RCs establishing community COVID testing sites for RC consumers
- Data collection on RC consumers receiving vaccination and adverse side effects
- Collaboration with Community Care Licensing and RCs to ensure licensed residential providers are registered with Pharmacy Partnership

# COVID-19 Vaccine Update



# COVID-19 Vaccine Planning

The Vaccine Task Force is developing the plan for the COVID-19 vaccine and the distribution plan ensures:

- COVID-19 vaccine meets safety requirements
- Equitable distribution, first to those with the highest risk, with more people added as supply becomes available
- Transparency by bringing in community stakeholders
  - DDS and advocates continue to be engaged in this process

Vaccine availability may vary by county. Vaccines are expected to be available through:

- County public health departments
- Health care providers like Kaiser, Dignity Health, and the UC Health system

Latest vaccine phases and priorities can be found here:

[Vaccines - Coronavirus COVID-19 Response \(ca.gov\)](#)

# COVID-19 Vaccination – Phase 1A

Residents and staff of the following facilities:

- Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs)
- Intermediate Care Facilities (ICFs)
- Adult Residential Facilities for Persons with Special Health Care Needs (ARFPSHN)
- Other licensed residential facilities

Community Healthcare workers

# COVID-19 Vaccination Priorities – Who is a Community Healthcare Worker?

Home health care and in-home supportive services workers:

- Respite, applied behavioral analysis, independent living skills training and Early Start
- Community health workers, including promotoras
- Supported living services, Family Home Agencies/contractors and Congregate Living Health Facilities staff

Regional center staff in:

- Monitoring and quality assurance
- Intake and assessment
- Service coordination, including bilingual coordination
- Clinical services

# COVID-19 Vaccination Priorities – Who is a Community Healthcare Worker? (Continued)

Family members caring for people at high risk of COVID-19 complications with any of the following conditions (this list is not necessarily exhaustive):

- Cerebral Palsy
- Down Syndrome
- Epilepsy
- Specialized health care needs, dependence upon ventilators, oxygen, and other technology

# COVID-19 Vaccination Priorities – Phase 1B

Individuals at higher risk for severe disease/death due to age or other factors who:

- Are unable to work at home
- Live or work in geographic areas that have been highly impacted
- Are most likely to spread disease to other workers or to the public

# COVID-19 Testing – Regional Centers

San Diego Regional Center & Home of Guiding Hands

# Self-Advocate and Family Member Survey

- Feedback from family members and self-advocates about current needs and interests
- 9,064 responses from November 18 to December 18
- 1,084 responded to the survey in Spanish
- Next Steps
  - DDS to complete analysis of results
  - Present to DS Task Force (TBD)
  - Post findings on website in multiple languages