



# MEMORANDUM

Date: September 17, 2021

To: The Honorable Chair and Members  
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry  
County Administrator *[Signature]*

Re: COVID-19 Update for the September 21, 2021 Board of Supervisors Meeting

Weekly COVID-19 case numbers appear to continue to plateau in Pima County at approximately 1,718 cases last week. Overall COVID-19 testing has increased during this surge; however, test positivity remains high at 7 percent (slightly decreased from a current surge peak of 9 percent during the last week of July). (Attachment)

## Hospital Capacity

Overall COVID-19 hospitalizations are trending very slowly in the right direction. Intensive care capacity continues to be constrained across Pima County, with ICU bed availability hovering around 4 percent for more than a month. As of yesterday, intensive care bed use by COVID-19 patients accounted for 23 percent of all ICU patients, which is slightly lower (down from 25 percent) during our last update.

Anecdotal reporting from local hospitals still continues to describe the overwhelming percent unvaccinated among the hospitalized population ranging from approximately 90 to 95 percent. More notably the severity of COVID-related hospitalizations appears to be substantially higher among the unvaccinated cases which require longer intensive care stays and higher rates of ventilator use. Further supporting these observations, Health Department estimates that 98 percent of COVID-19 related deaths have occurred in unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated individuals.

## Schools Update

Cumulative school reported cases since July 20 of this year are up to 2,013 as of this week. Although this is up nearly 600 from our last report, the overall daily cases reported by our school partners are beginning to decrease.

Students still represent the overwhelming majority of these cases at 88 percent compared to teachers and staff at 12 percent.

Non-vaccine eligible children up to 11 years of age represent 47 percent (949 cases, up from 671 in last week) of school reported cases, while the 12 to 19 year age group make up 40 percent (799 cases up from 550 last week) of school reported cases.

9/17/21 0406 PCDKCFDD

*ma*

Since the beginning of the school year cases have been reported from 247 schools. Among these, 68 had school outbreaks (using the CDC definition (of 2 or more epidemiologically linked cases not in the same household), which have resulted in 40 separate classroom closures. All school districts are now impacted largely in proportion to the size of their student population. If all private and charter schools were accumulated into a single district or group, they would rank second in the number of cases being reported.

### **Vaccine Coverage**

Today we are pleased to report that 75 percent of Pima County residents 12 years of age or older have received at least a single dose COVID vaccine. As documented by the CDC COVID-19 Data Tracker, 679,987 (64.9 percent) Pima County residents have received at least a single dose of vaccine, and 594,273 (56.7 percent) have been fully vaccinated. First dose coverage now exceeds 67 percent across all age groups, except for 10 to 14 (31 percent), 15 to 19 (54 percent), and 20 to 29 (51 percent). Pima County continues to have higher vaccination coverage rates compared to the rest of the state and the nation.

### **Conclusion**

Pima County continues to be positioned well to respond to the current surge. We remain committed to expand vaccination and testing to serve this community.

CHH/dym

Attachment

c: Jan Leshner, Chief Deputy County Administrator  
Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator for Public Works  
Francisco García, MD, MPH, Deputy County Administrator & Chief Medical Officer,  
Health and Community Services  
Terry Cullen, MD, MS, Public Health Director, Health Department

# COVID Brief

## Pima County Summary Data

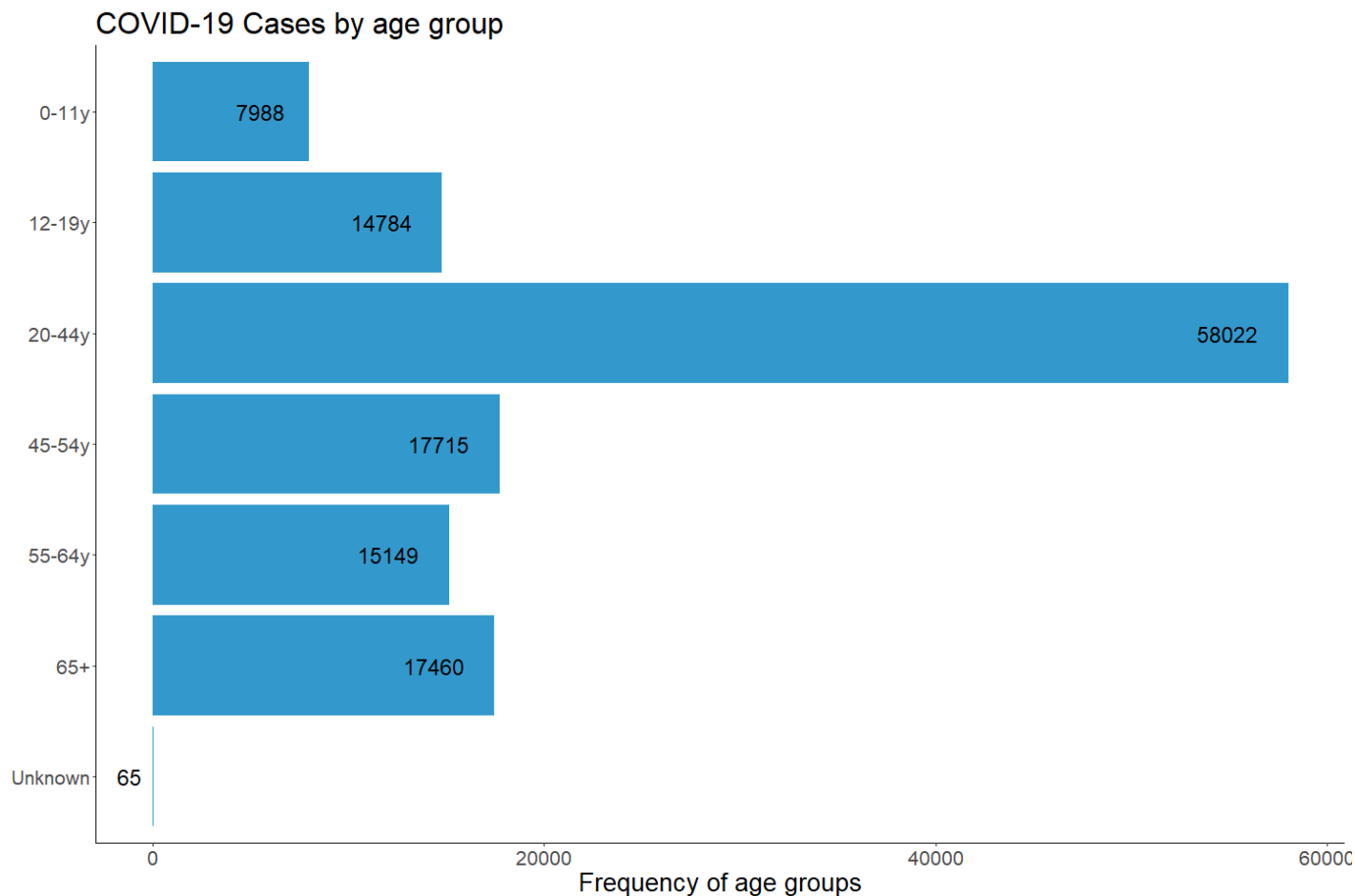
---

Date:09/16/2021

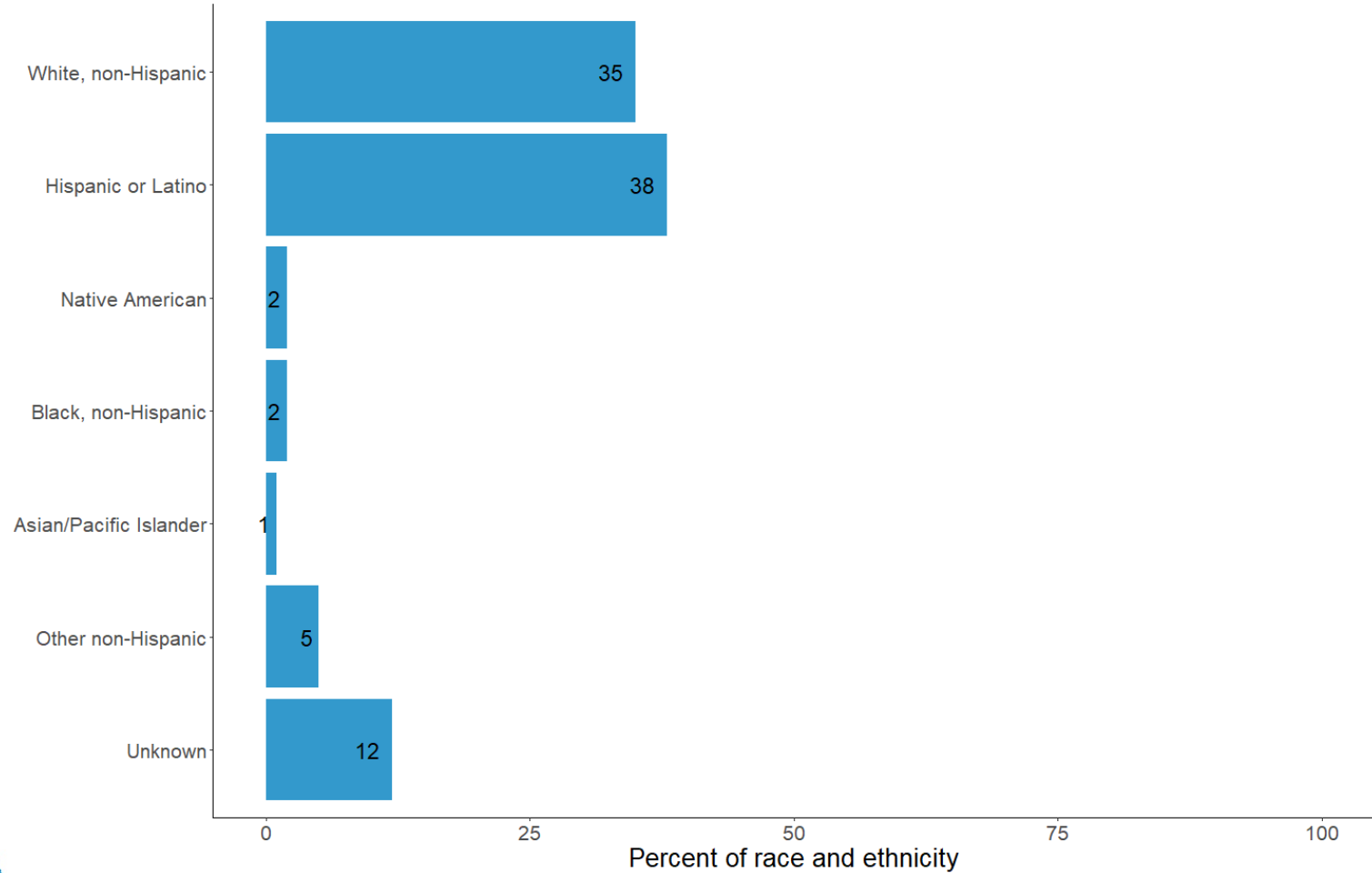
---

## Cumulative Cases, Hospitalizations & Deaths

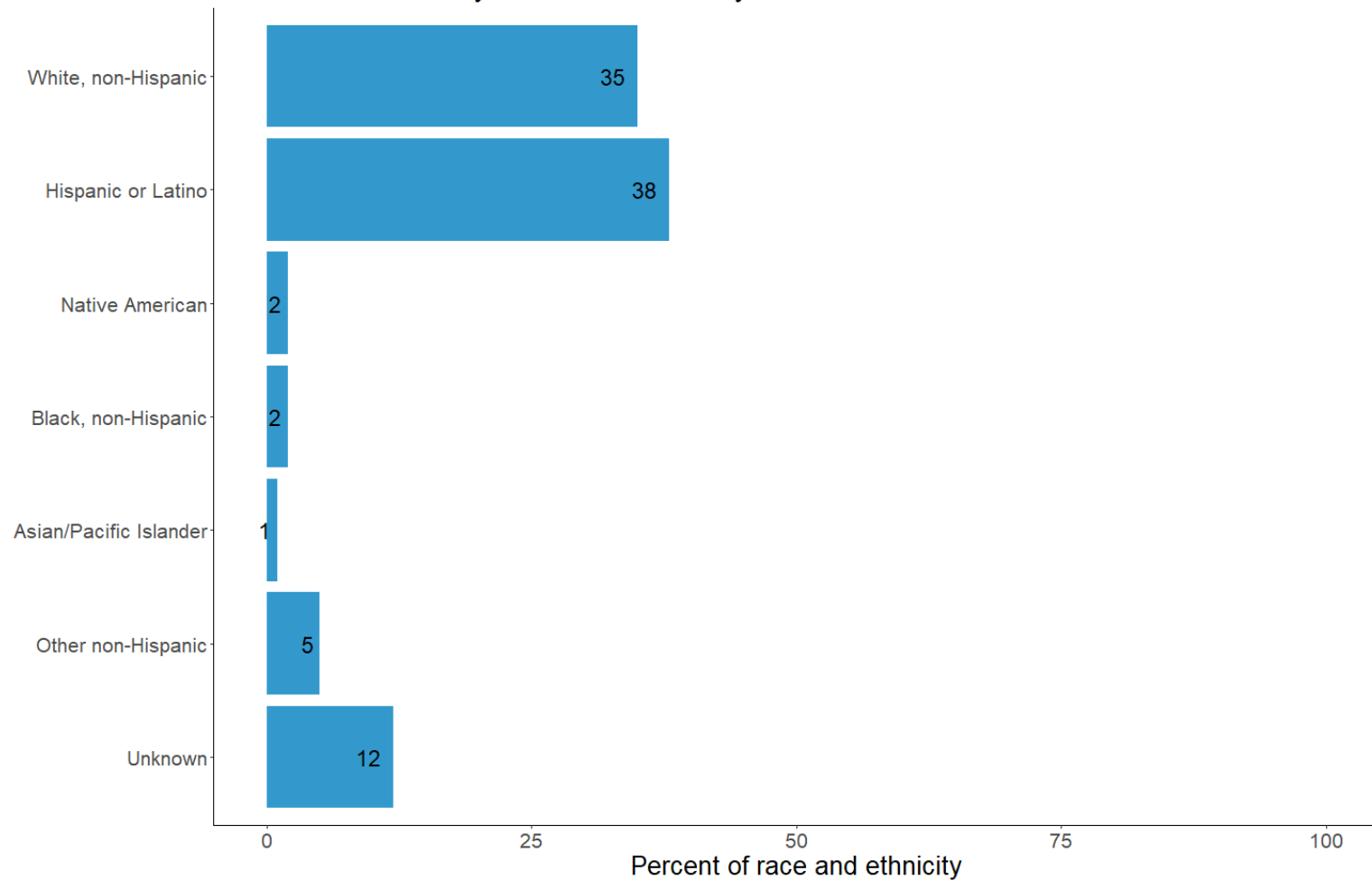
## Cumulative Total Cases as of 9/13/2021; n=131,183



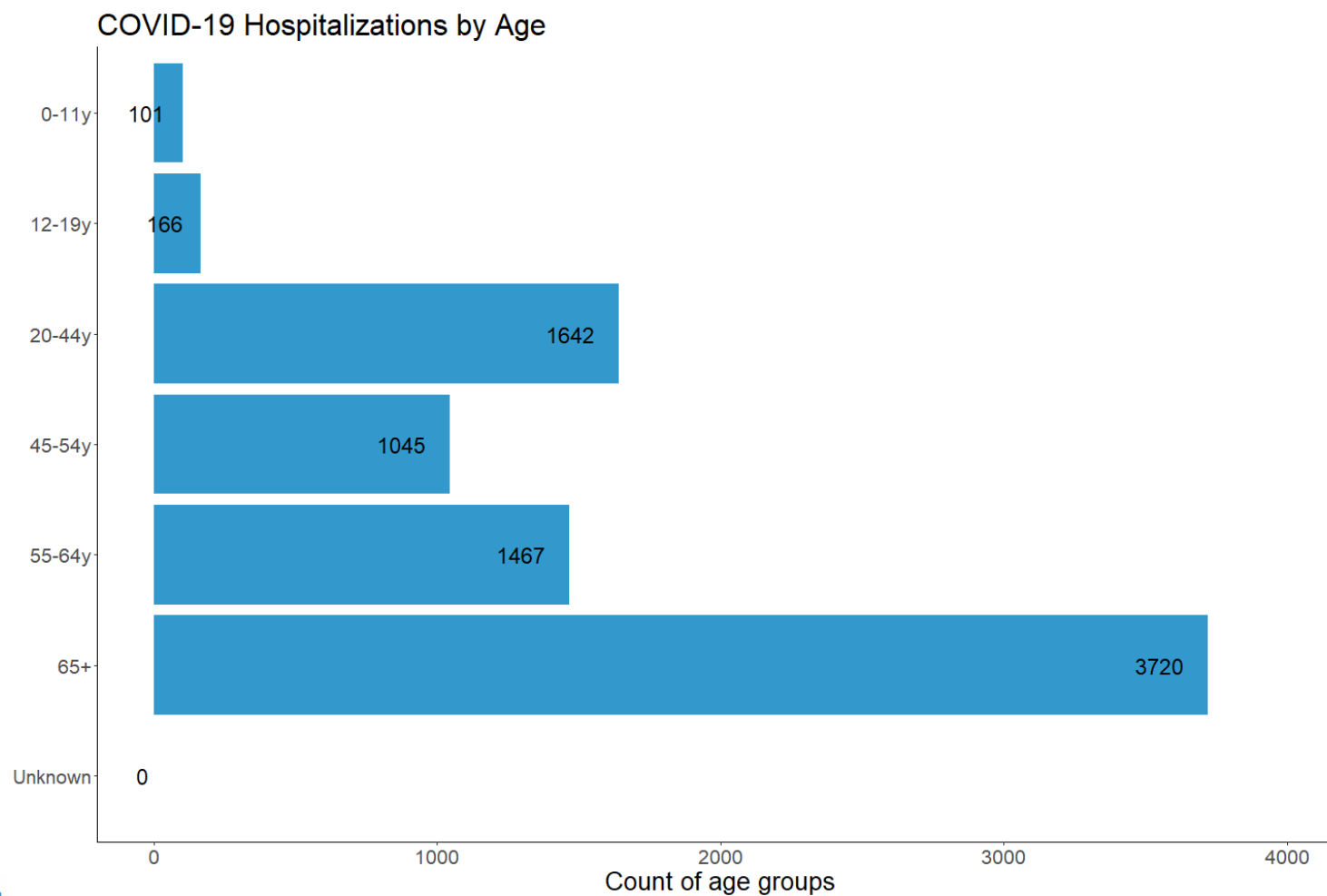
## COVID-19 Cases by Race and Ethnicity



COVID-19 Cases by Race and Ethnicity

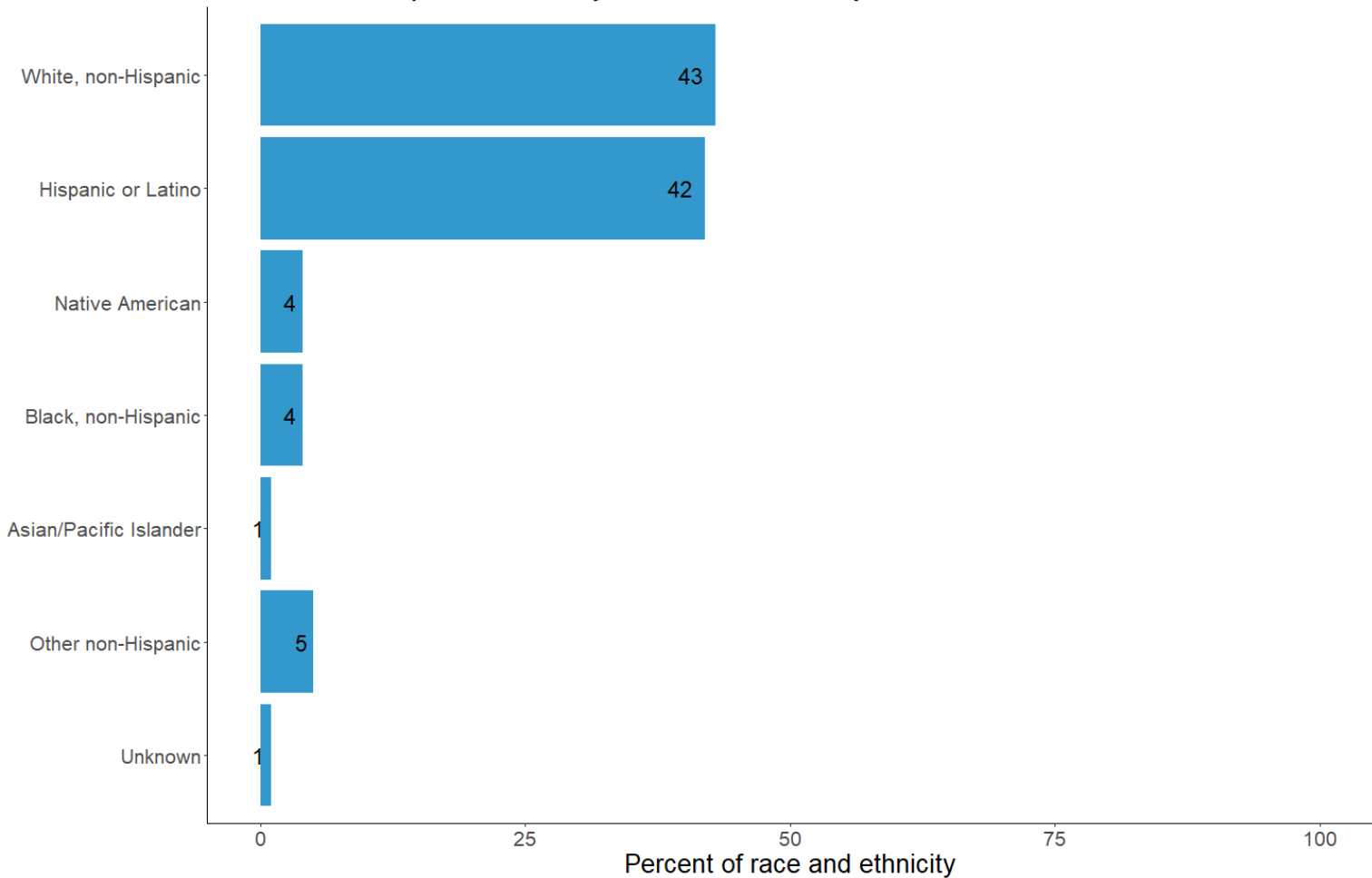


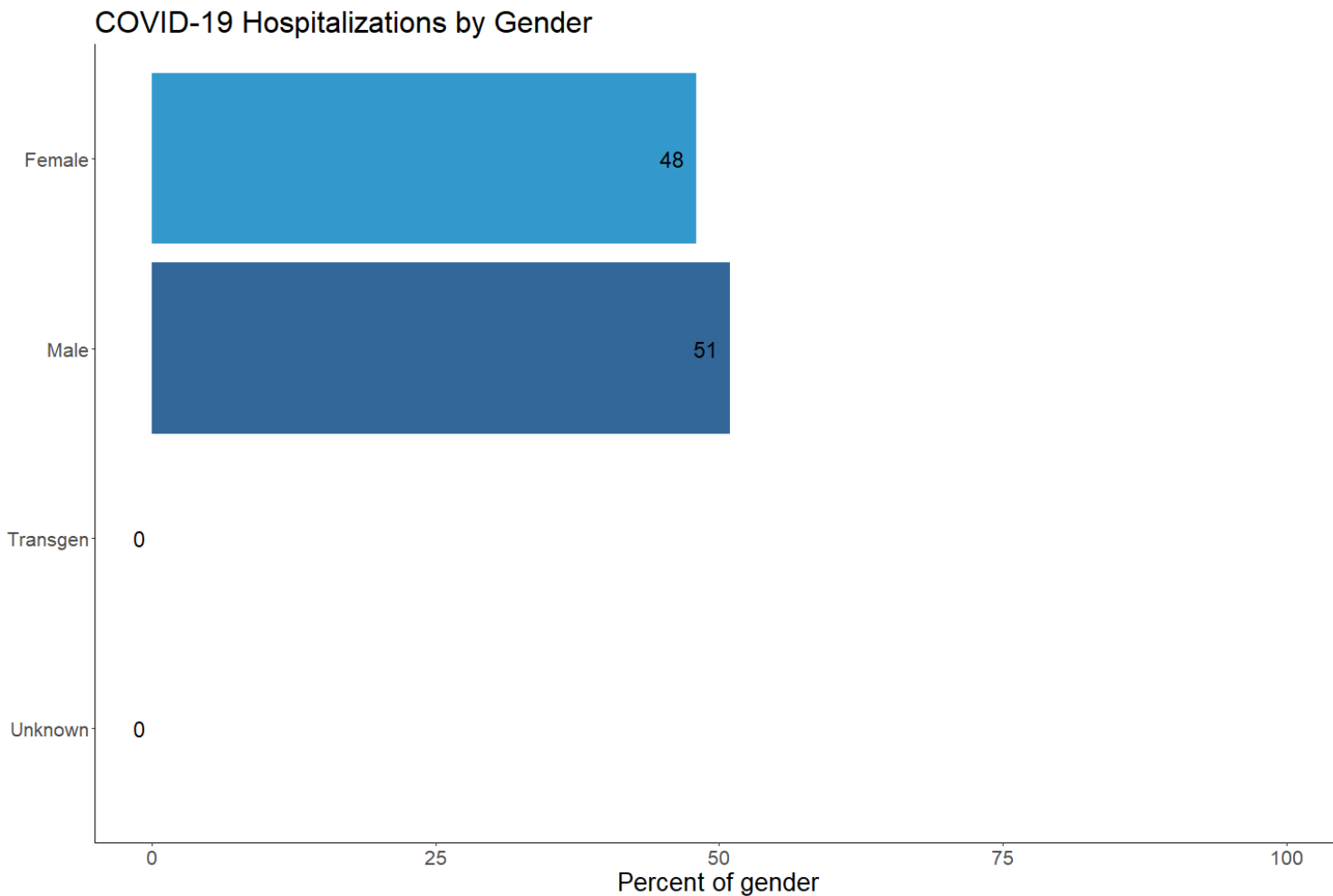
## Total Hospitalizations as of 9/13/2021; n=8,115



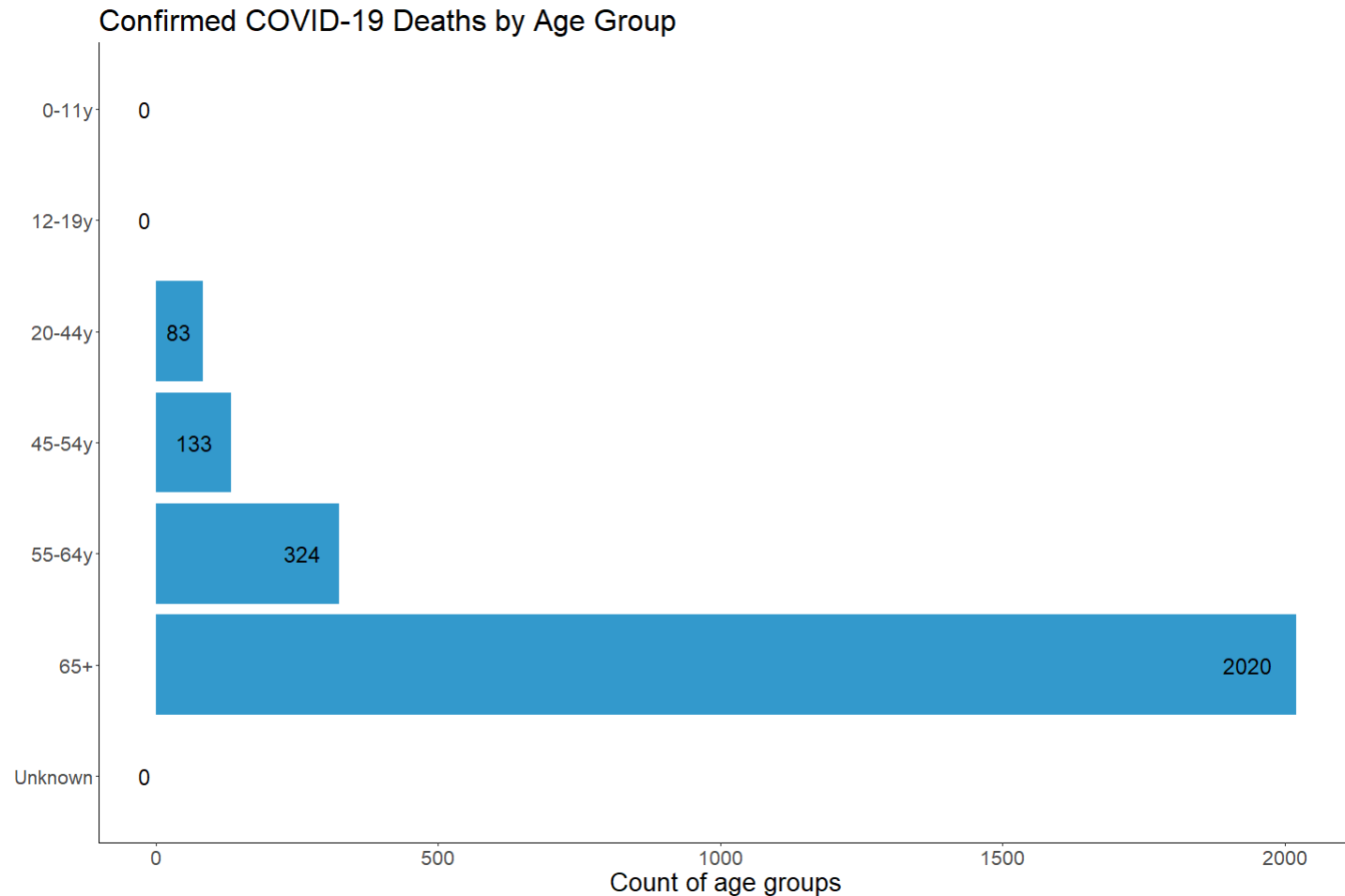


## COVID-19 Hospitalizations by Race and Ethnicity

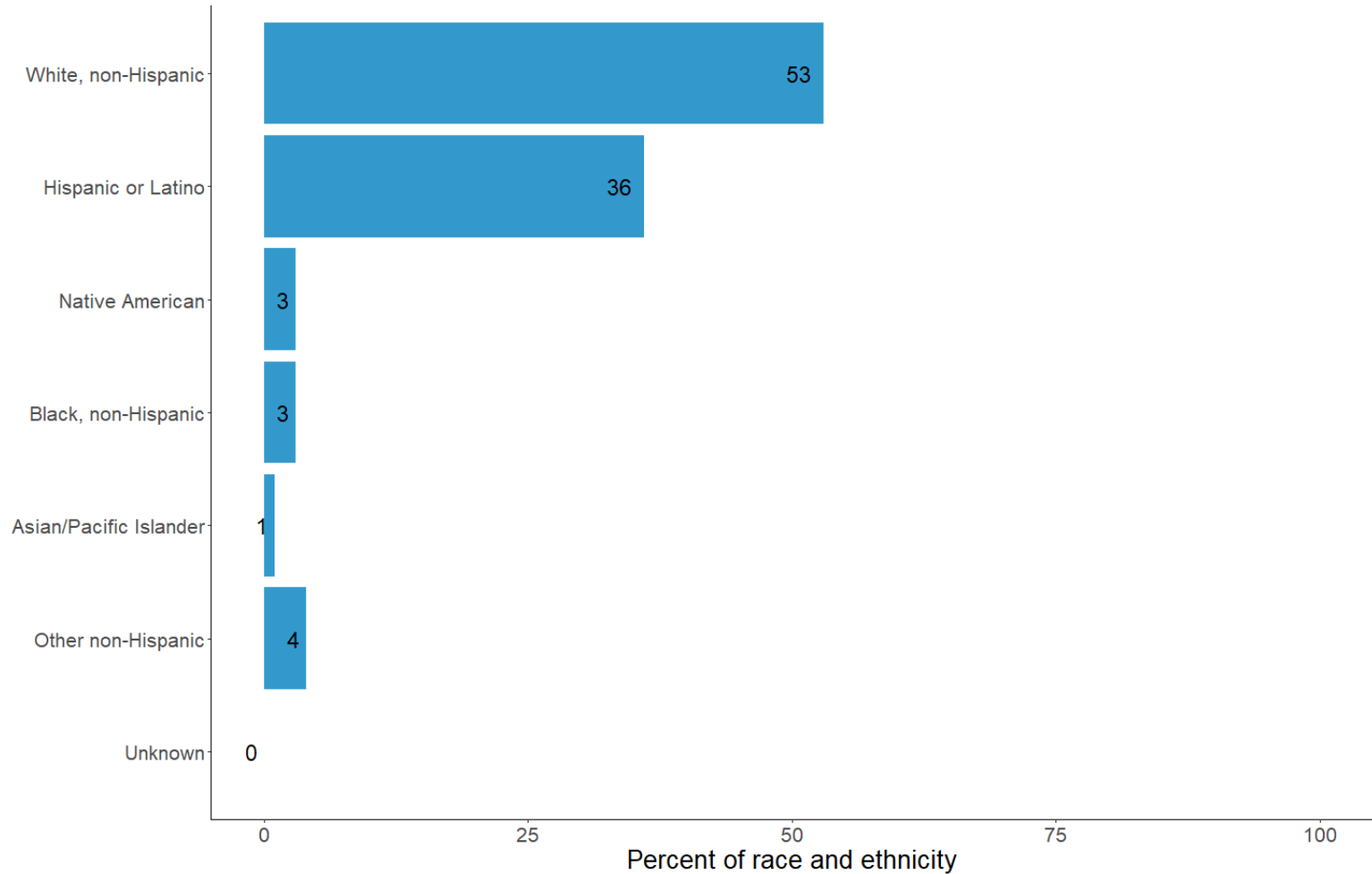


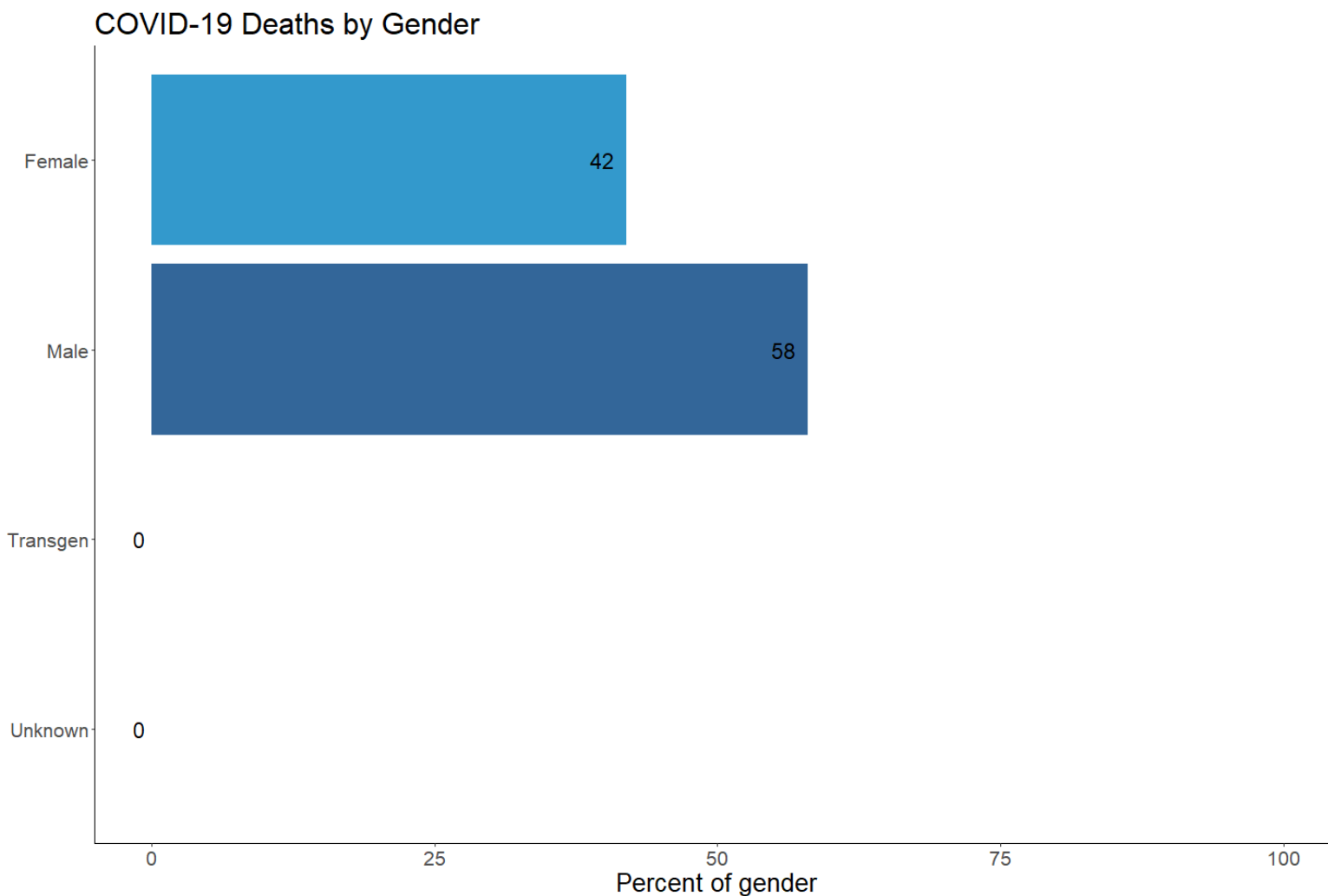


## Total Deaths as of 9/13/2021; n=2,560



## Confirmed COVID-19 Deaths by Race and Ethnicity





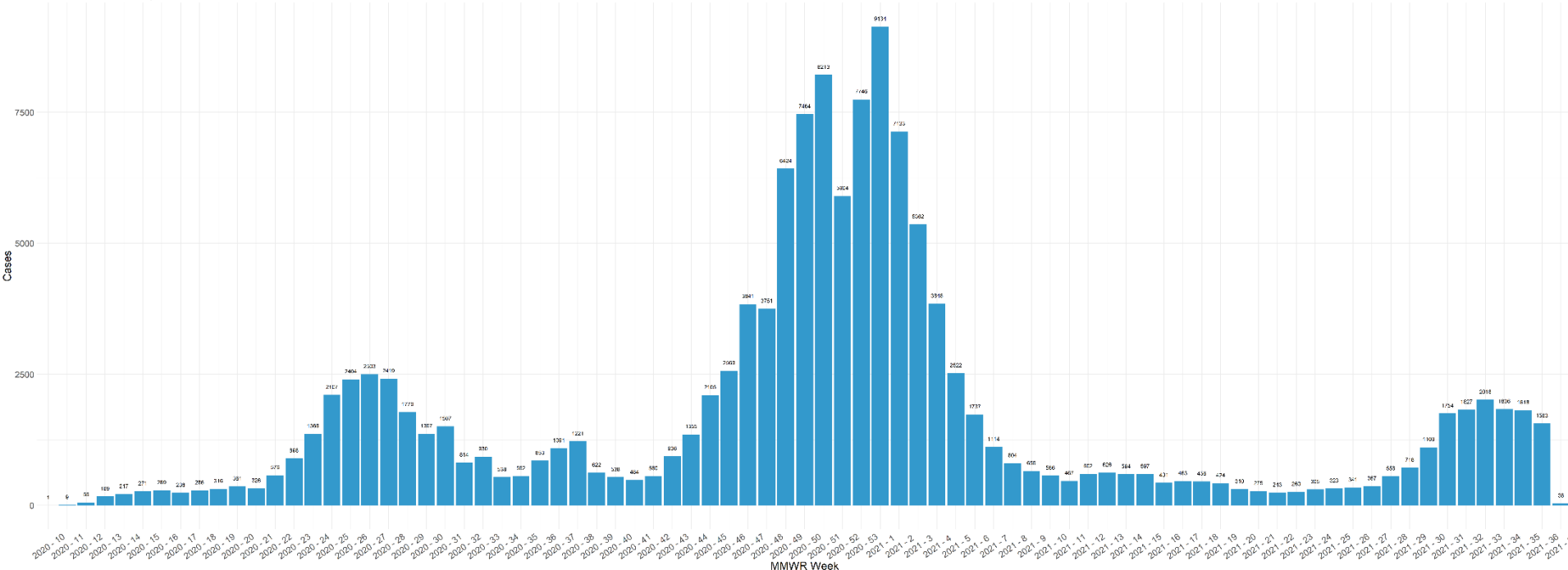
---

# Epidemiology Curve of Cases, Hospitalizations & Deaths

# County Rate Increase for COVID-19 by MMWR week

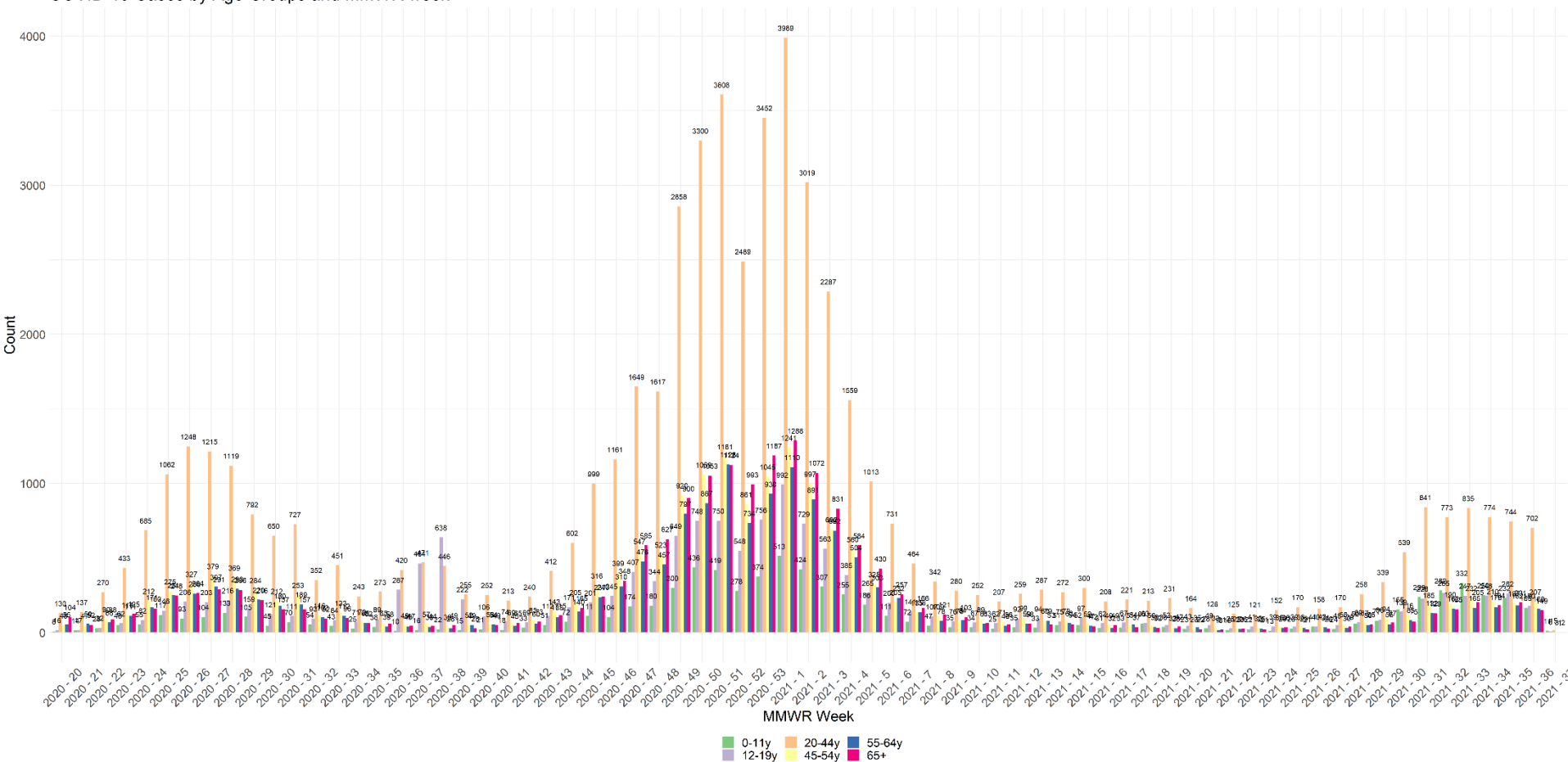
MMWR week	Cases	Rate of new cases per 100,000 persons
		Pima County population estimate for 2020 (n=1,052,375)
MMWR week 23; 6-6 to 6-12	174	16.5
MMWR week 24; 6-13 to 6-19	305	28.8
MMWR week 25; 6-20 to 6-26	323	30.6
MMWR week 26; 6-27 to 7-3	255	24.3
MMWR week 27; 7-4 to 7-10	367	34.9
MMWR week 28; 7-11 to 7-17	558	52.9
MMWR week 29; 7-18 to 7-24	718	68
MMWR week 30; 7-25 to 7-31	1110	105.2
MMWR week 31; 8-1 to 8-7	1760	167
MMWR week 32; 8-8 to 8-14	1830	173.9
MMWR week 33; 8-15 to 8-21	2010	190.1
MMWR week 34; 8-22 to 8-28	1830	173.9
MMWR week 35; 8-29 to 9-4	1630	154.9
MMWR week 36; 9-5 to 9-12	1563	148.5

COVID-19 Cases by MMWR week

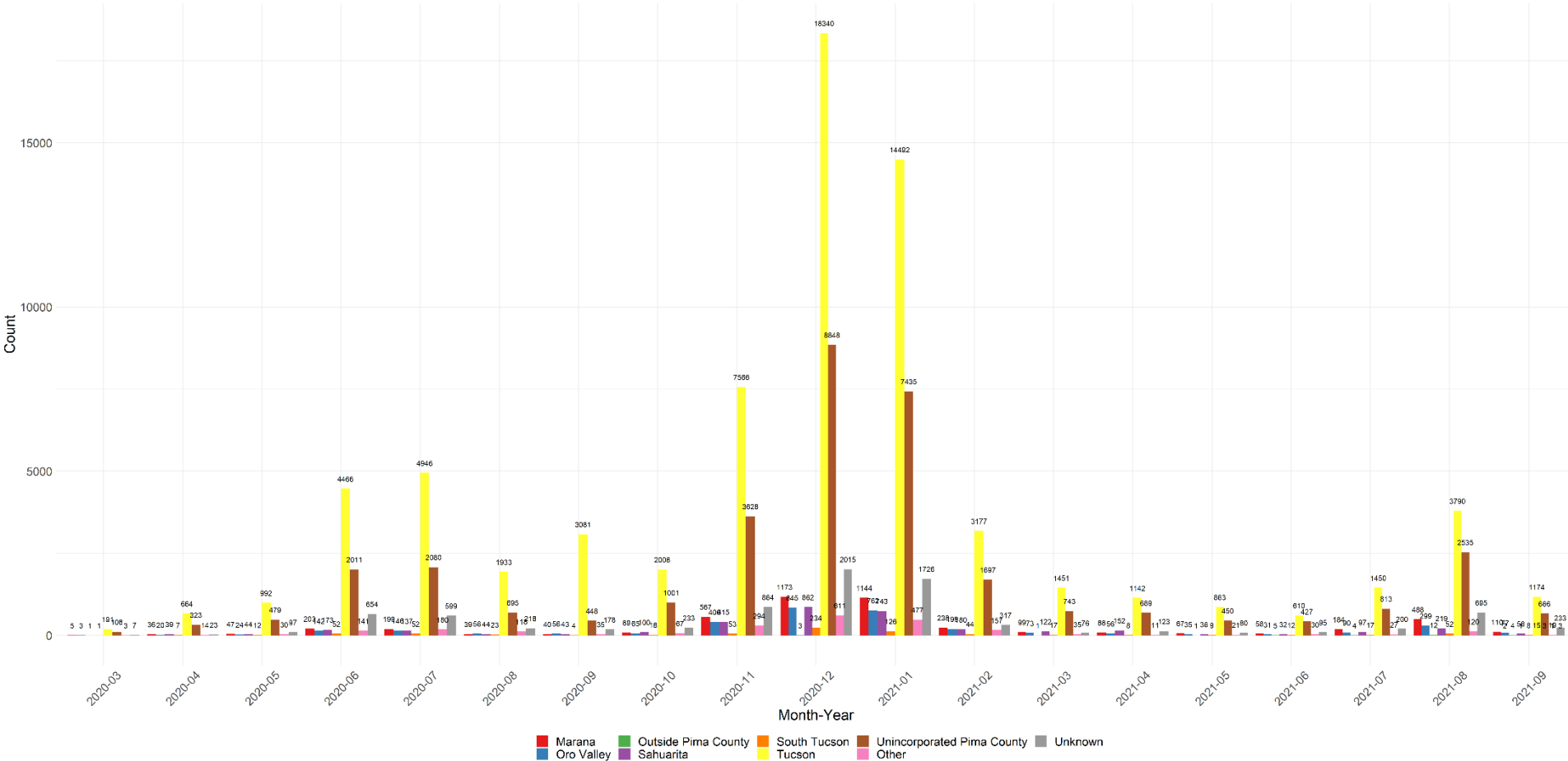




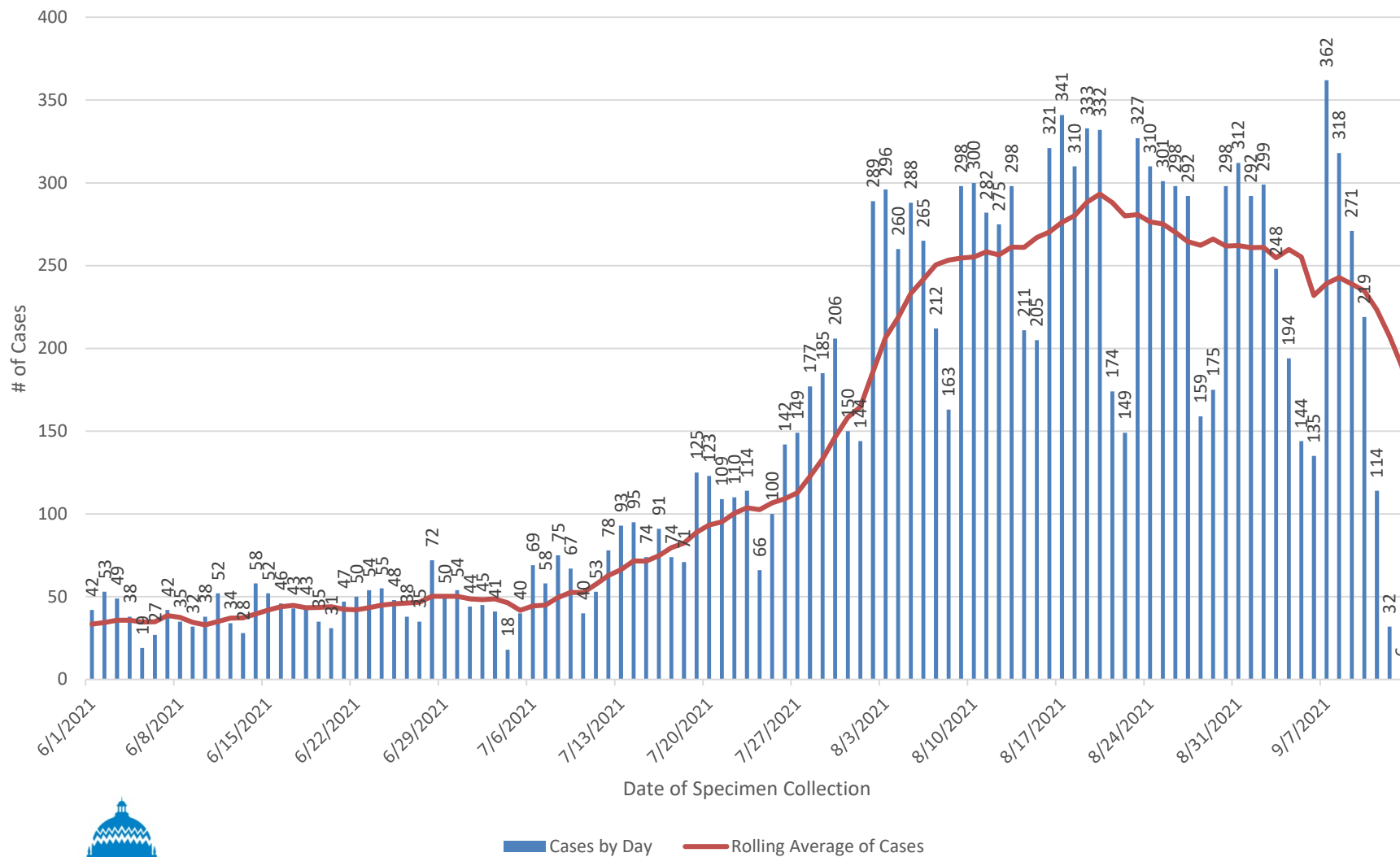
COVID-19 Cases by Age Groups and MMWR week



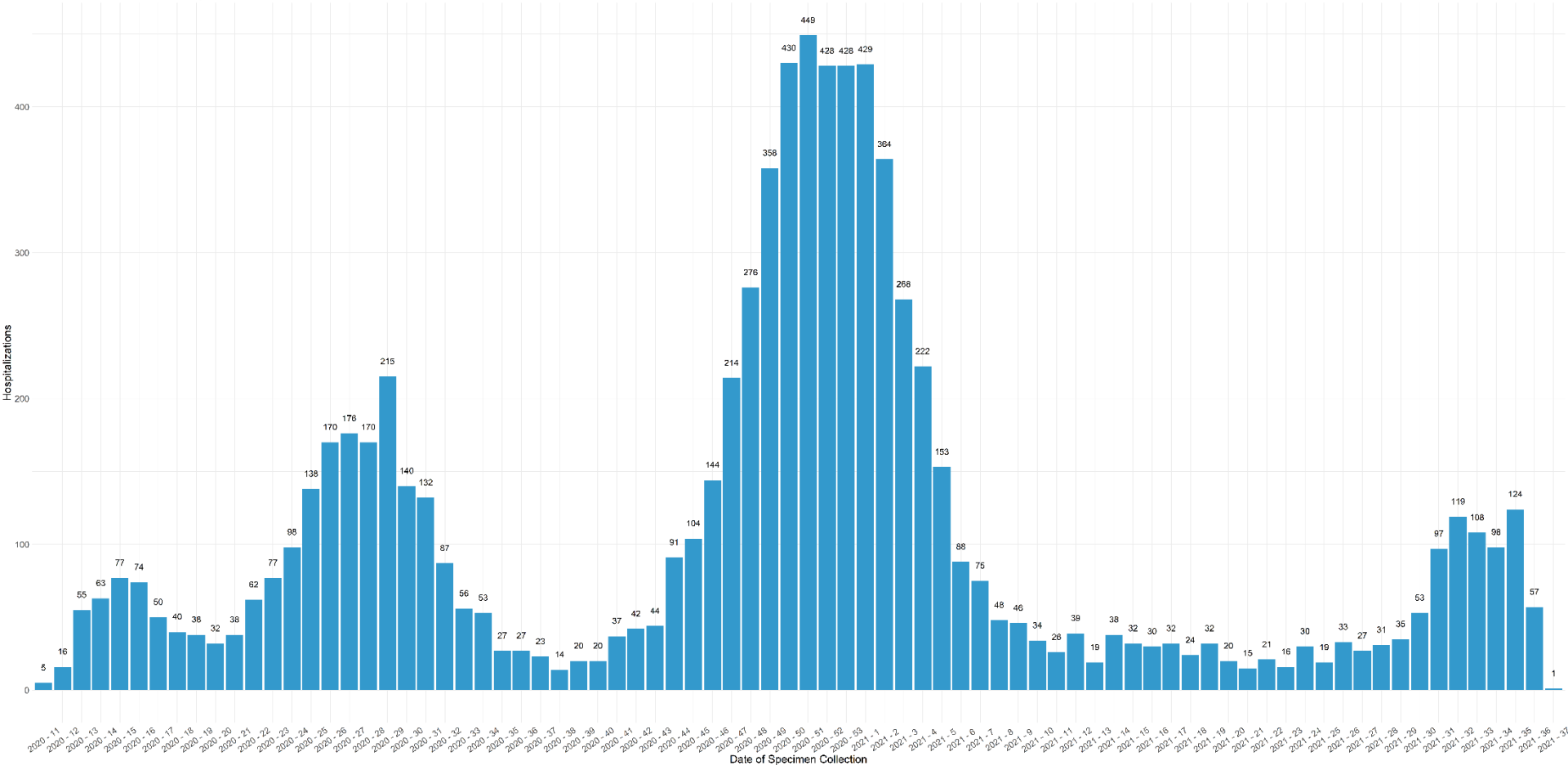
COVID-19 Cases by Jurisdiction and Month/Year



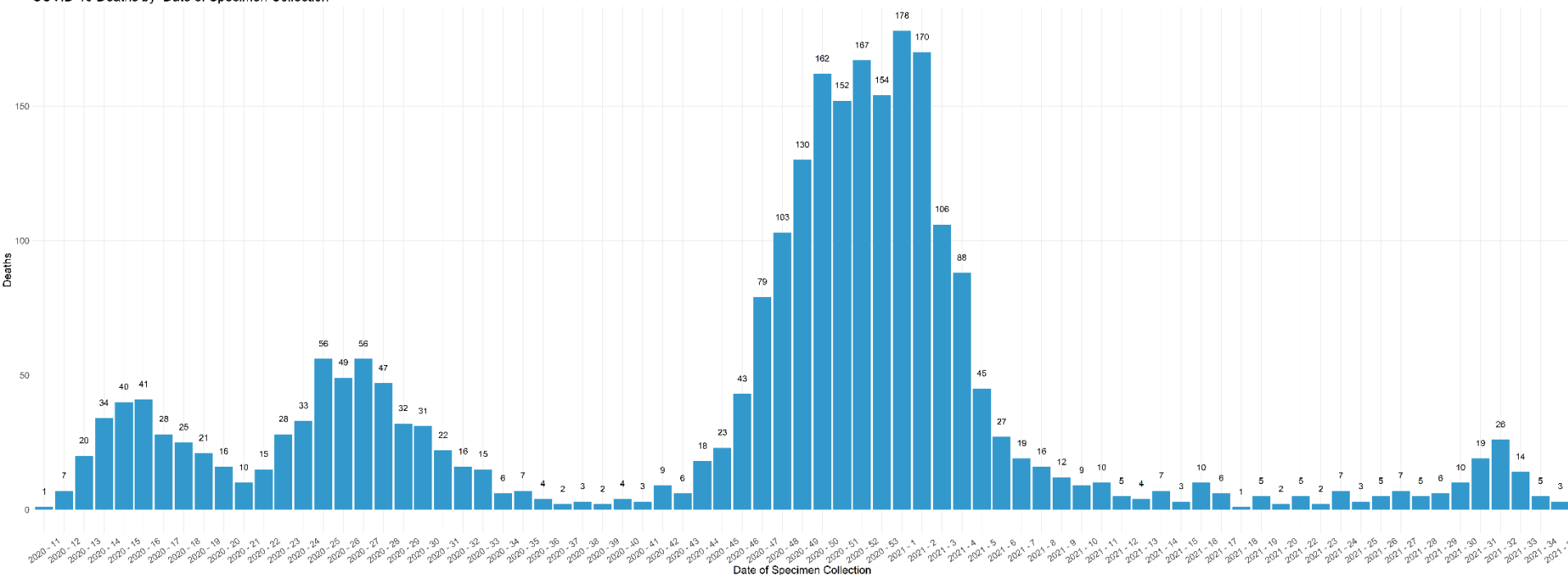
# COVID-19 Cases by Day with 7 Day Rolling Average



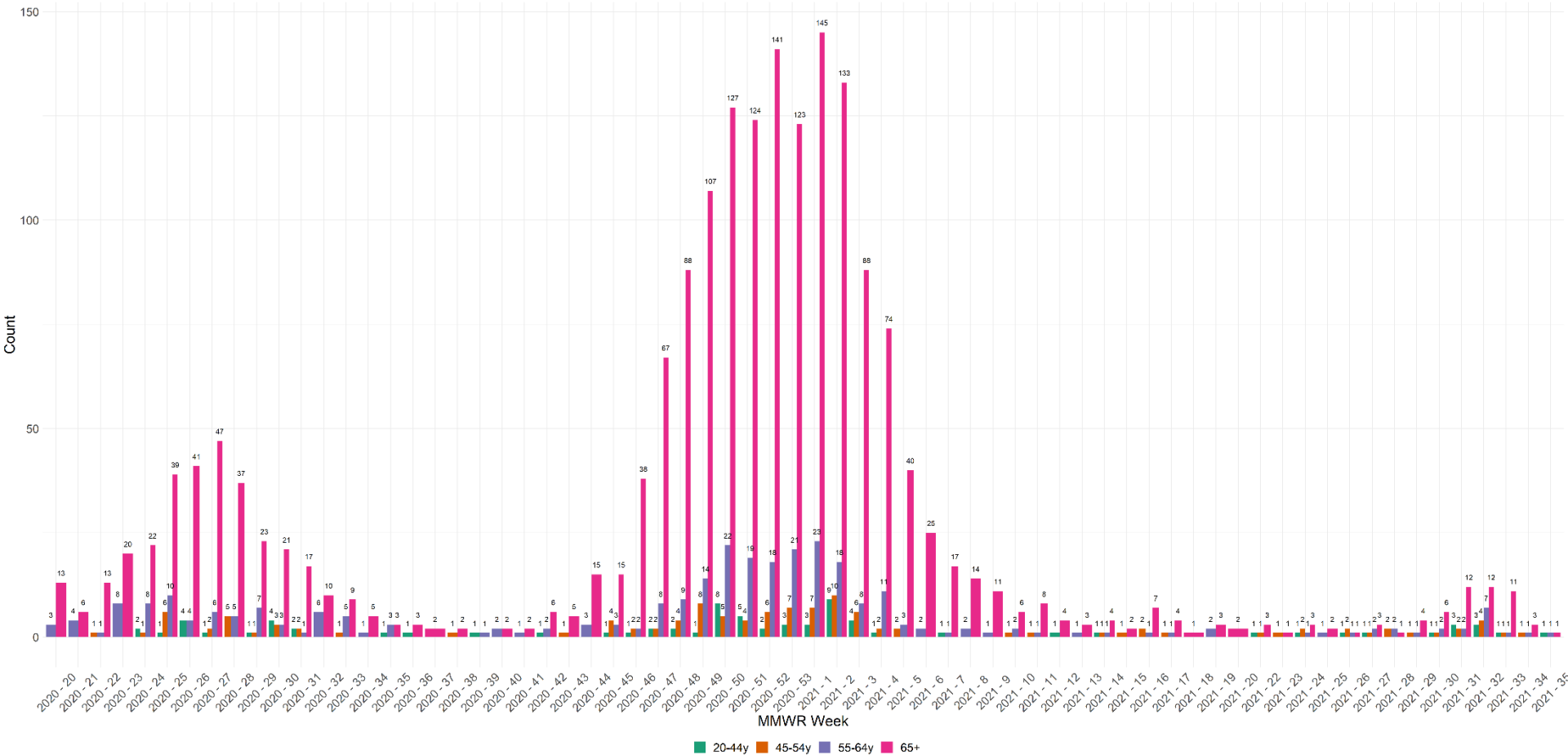
COVID-19 Hospitalizations by MMWR week



COVID-19 Deaths by Date of Specimen Collection



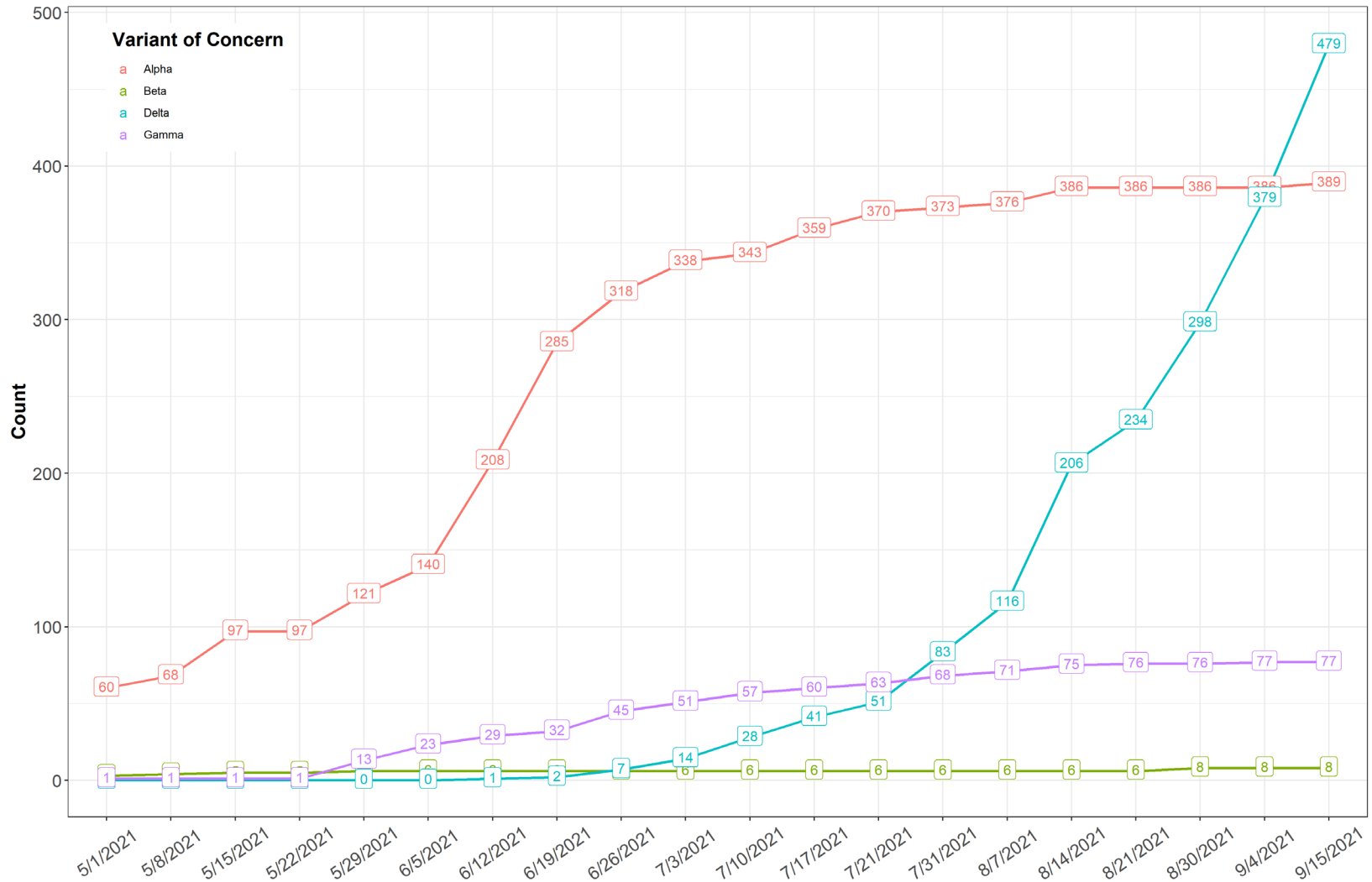
COVID-19 Deaths by Age and MMWR week



---

## Variant Distribution & Vaccine Breakthrough Cases

VOC's in Pima County May,1 2021 - September,4 2021



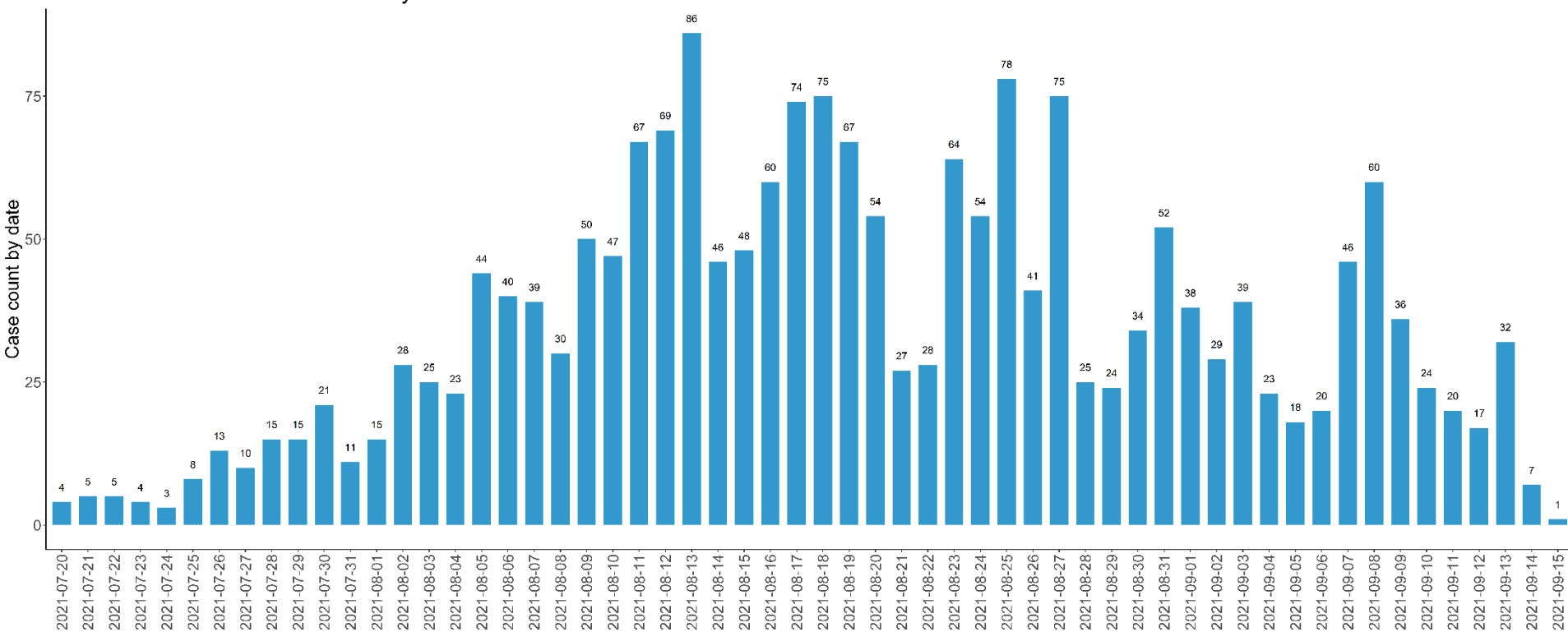


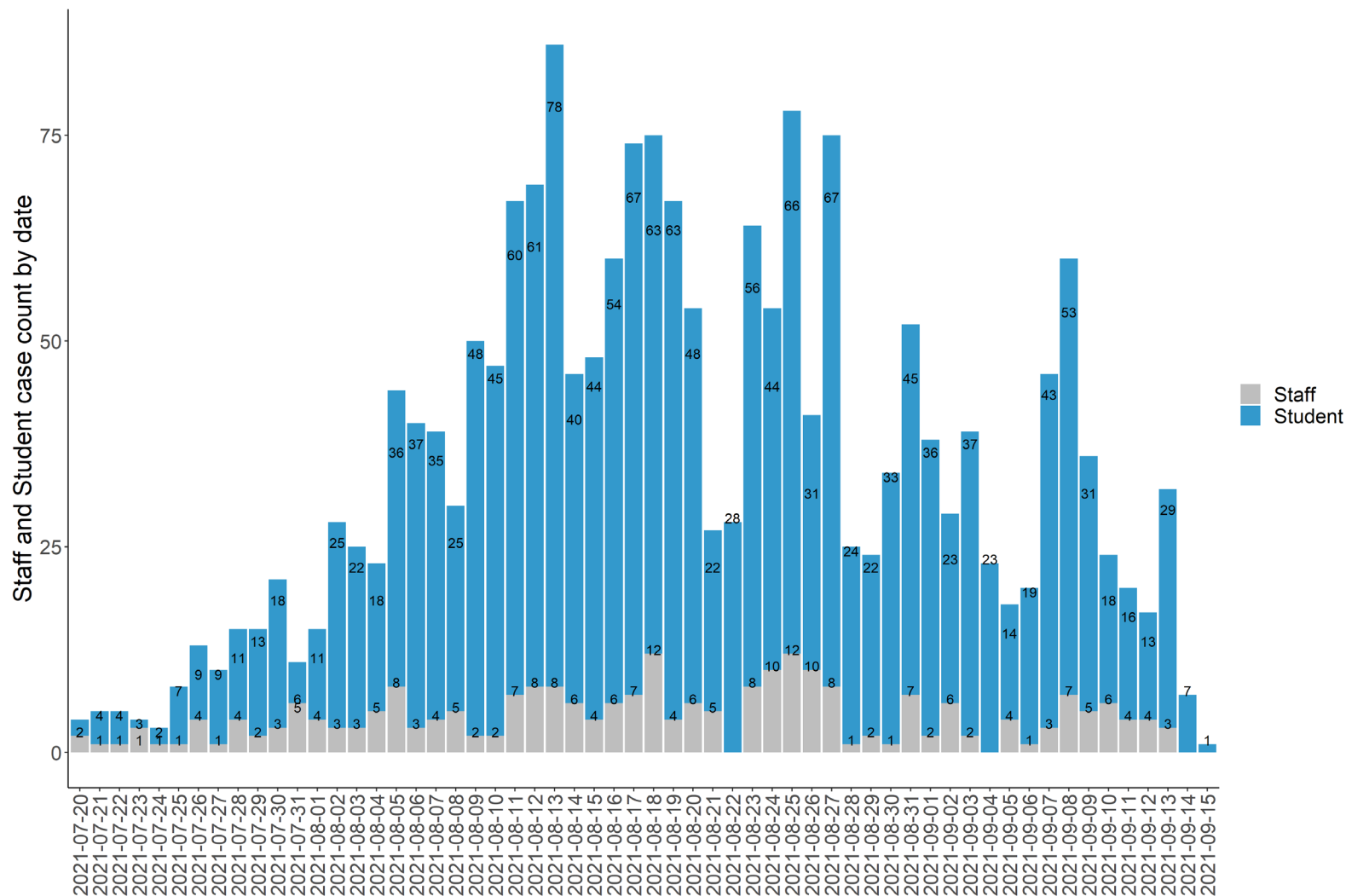
---

## School Reported Cases

n=2,013

Total COVID-19 Cases in Schools by Test Date





Total COVID-19 Cases in Pima County School Districts

