



COVID-19 Response + Recovery

Cross-Functional Team Update

8.16.21

Table of Contents

1. Overview (Tommy Gonzalez)
 2. City Attorney Overview (Karla Nieman)
 - a) State Disaster Declarations
 - b) Emergency Ordinances
 - c) Status of Various Mask Mandates and Pending Litigation against Governor Abbott's COVID-19 Executive Orders
 - d) Additional Updates
 3. Team Lead Report:
 - a) Health Focus (Hector Ocaranza, M.D.)
 - b) Economic Recovery
 - a. Small Business Focus (Mirella Craigo)
 4. City Manager Wrap-up (Tommy Gonzalez)
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1. Overview

Tommy Gonzalez

2. CAO Overview

- a) State Disaster Declarations
- b) Emergency Ordinances
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- d) Additional Updates

Karla Nieman

Governor Abbott's Disaster Declarations



*Anticipate Governor Abbott will renew his Disaster Declaration between August 27th-29th .



Emergency Ordinances

Ordinance	Adoption Date	Most Recent Re-enactment	Expires
Disaster Declaration Ord. No. 019035	3/17/2020	7/19/2021	8/18/2021
Emergency Measures Ord. No. 019036	3/17/2020	7/19/2021	8/18/2021
Public Right of Way Ord. No. 019091	8/31/2020	7/19/2021	8/18/2021



Status of Various Mask Mandates & Pending Litigation against Gov. Abbott's COVID-19 Executive Orders



- ❖ Dallas County – obtained a TRO giving local officials the ability to impose mask mandates
 - ❖ 8/11/2021 – Governor filed an appeal with the 5th Court of Appeals
 - ❖ 8/24/2021 – Hearing on a Temporary Injunction

- ❖ City of San Antonio & Bexar County – obtained a TRO permitting local officials to issue a mask mandate at its schools
 - ❖ 8/16/2021 – Hearing on a Temporary Injunction

- ❖ Fort Bend County – obtained a TRO permitting local officials to issue mask mandates

- ❖ Harris County – mandating masks

- ❖ City of Houston – mandating masks in city facilities for employees where social distancing is not feasible

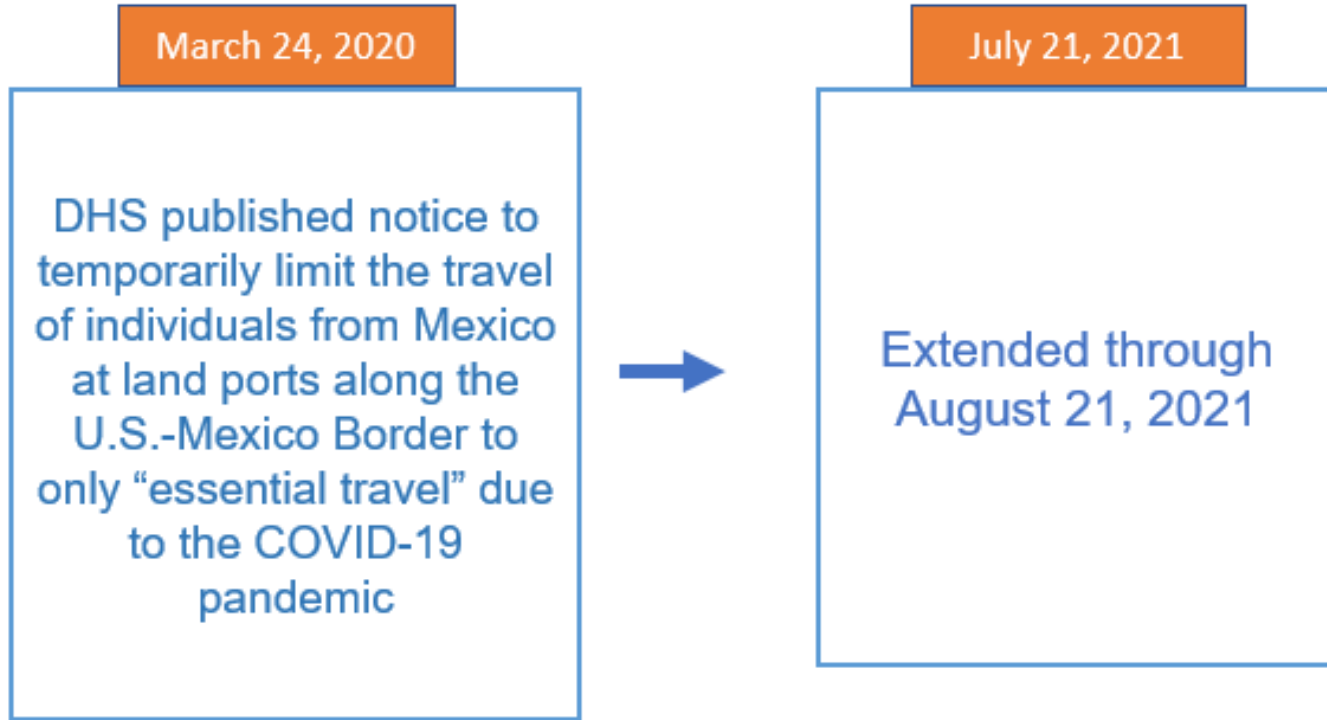
- ❖ Austin ISD, Dallas ISD, Ft. Worth ISD, Pharr ISD, & San Antonio ISD – mandating masks



Additional Updates - CDC Eviction Moratorium

- ❖ 9/4/20 – 5/5/21 - HHS/CDC Temporary Halt in Residential Evictions to Prevent the Further Spread of COVID-19 – for nonpayment of rent
- ❖ 7/19/21 – Texas Supreme Court issued Emergency Order No. 39 extending the Texas Eviction Diversion program until October 1, 2021
- ❖ 7/31/21- CDC eviction moratorium expired
- ❖ 8/3/2021 – CDC renewed its eviction moratorium
 - ❖ Applies in counties with substantial or high rates of community transmission
 - ❖ Expires October 3, 2021

Additional Updates – Land Ports of Entry Travel Restrictions



Restricted Non-essential travel—individuals traveling for tourism purposes (e.g. sightseeing, recreation, gambling, or attending cultural events)

Additional Updates – COVID-19 Prosecution Update

Trial Settings on COVID-19 Citations through 8/10/2021 in all 5 Municipal Courts

103 Trial Settings

9 Trials
(3 Guilty)

25
Pleas

27
Reset

16
Warrants

27
Dismissed



Additional Updates

Municipal Court Safety Protocols

1. Facemasks are still required
2. Virtual hearings are still happening
3. In person hearings are taking place
4. Safe spacing of 3ft



3. Team Lead Report





a. Health Focus

Hector I. Ocaranza, M.D.



COVID-19
SITUATIONAL
MONITORING
August 9, 2021



Positive Tests
129 139,095
New Cumulative

COVID-19 Deaths
0 2730
New Cumulative

Active
1,447

Recovered
134,779

Hospitalized
90

In ICU
31



COVID-19
Community
Scorecard

Stage 3



Infection
Rate 2



Testing 3



Investi-
gations 3



Healthcare
Readiness 3



At-Risk
Population 4

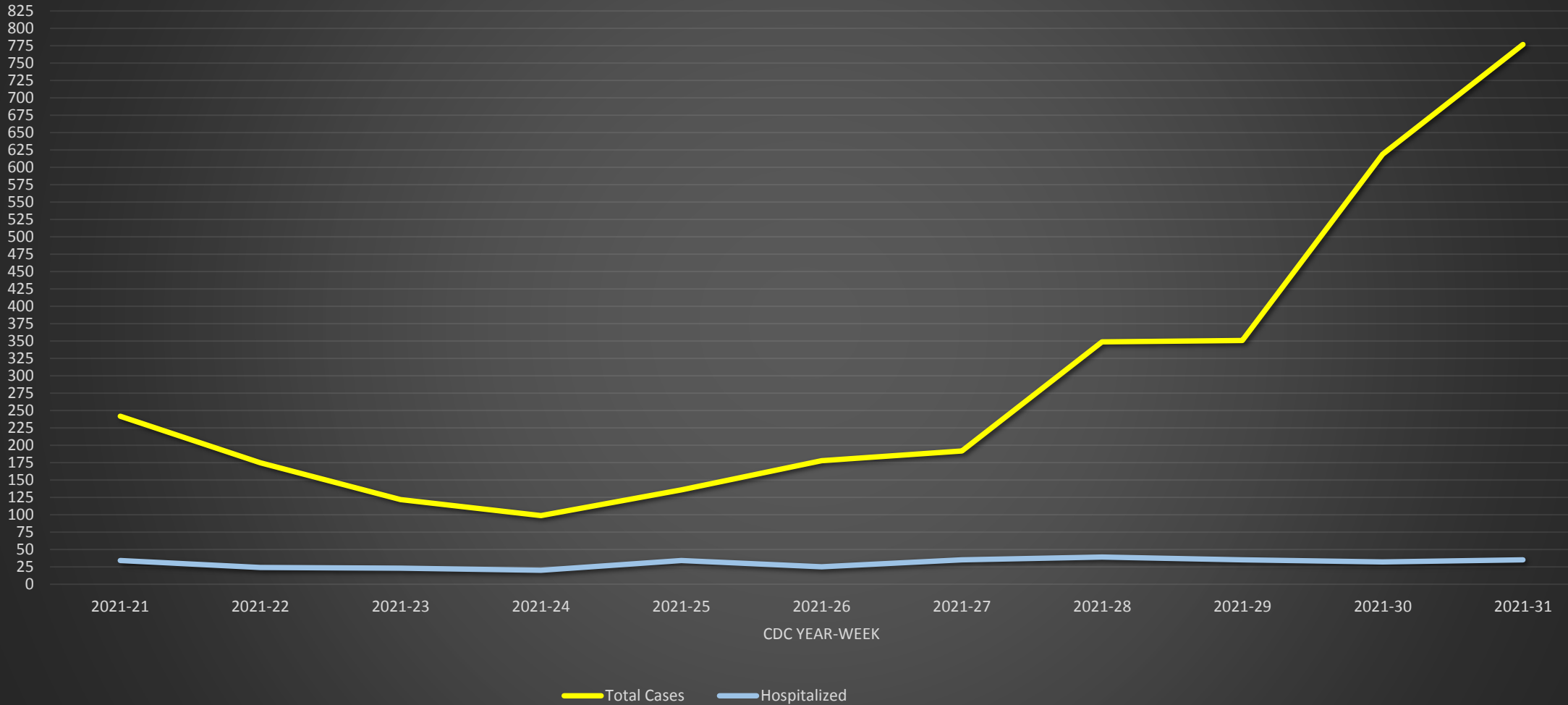


COVID-19
Vaccinations

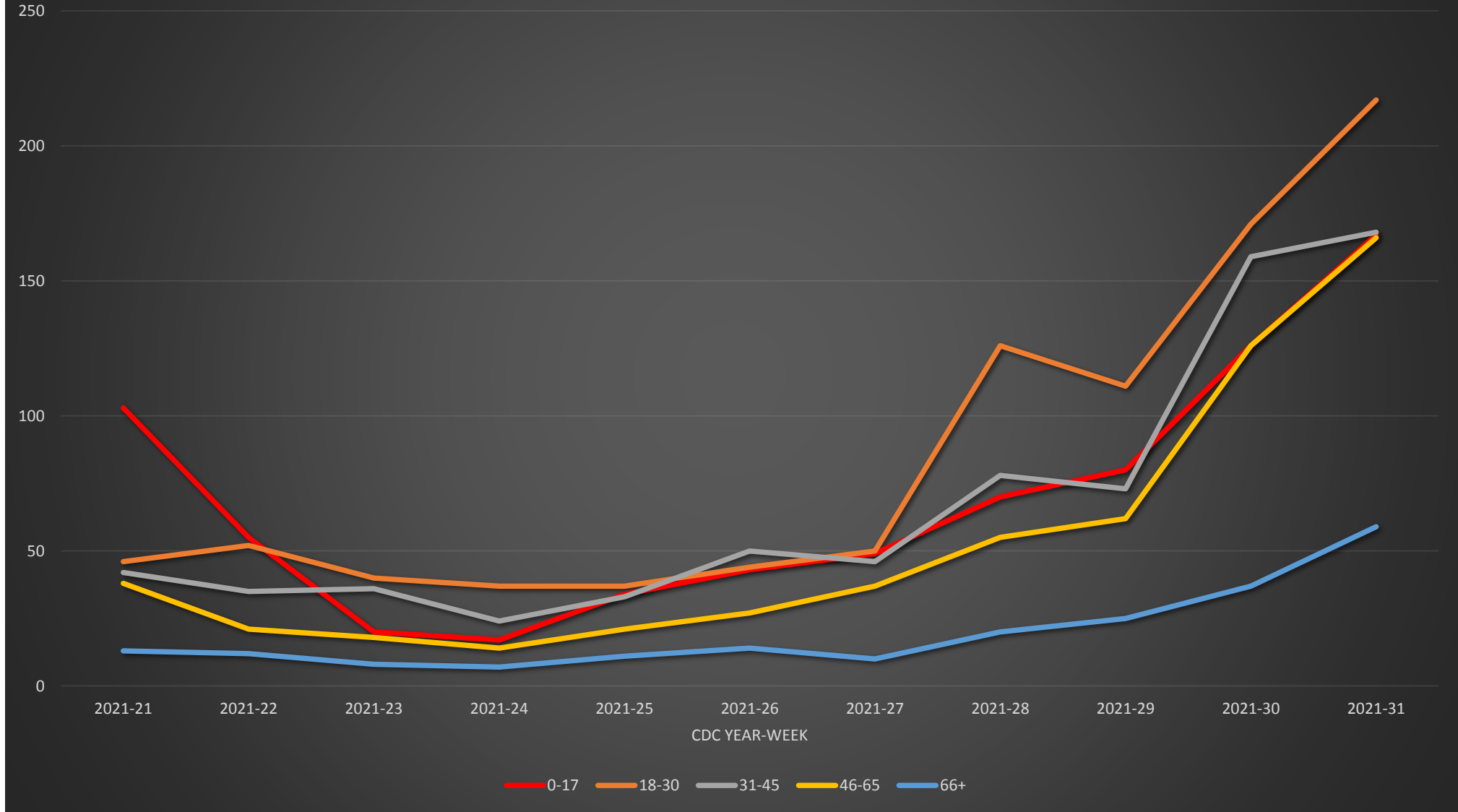
- ❖ We are experiencing an upward trend of new cases very likely from Delta variant
- ❖ Cases have grown an average of 45% for the last 4 weeks
- ❖ 7-day rolling avg of new cases have triple from 2nd week of July till now
- ❖ Last 3 weeks 7-day avg of new cases per capita have grown 2.5 times
- ❖ In average last 4 weeks 3 out of 4 new cases were unvaccinated

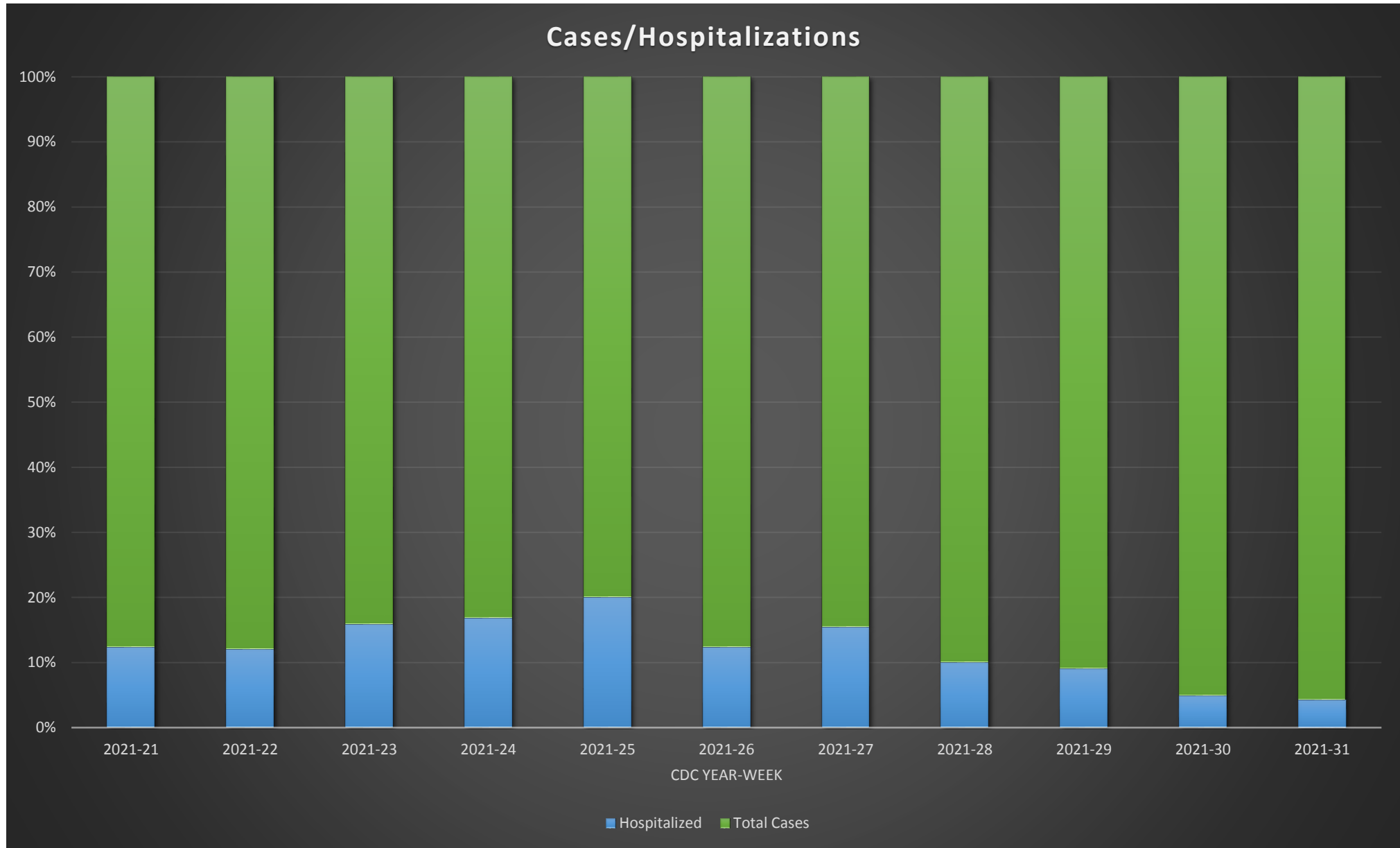


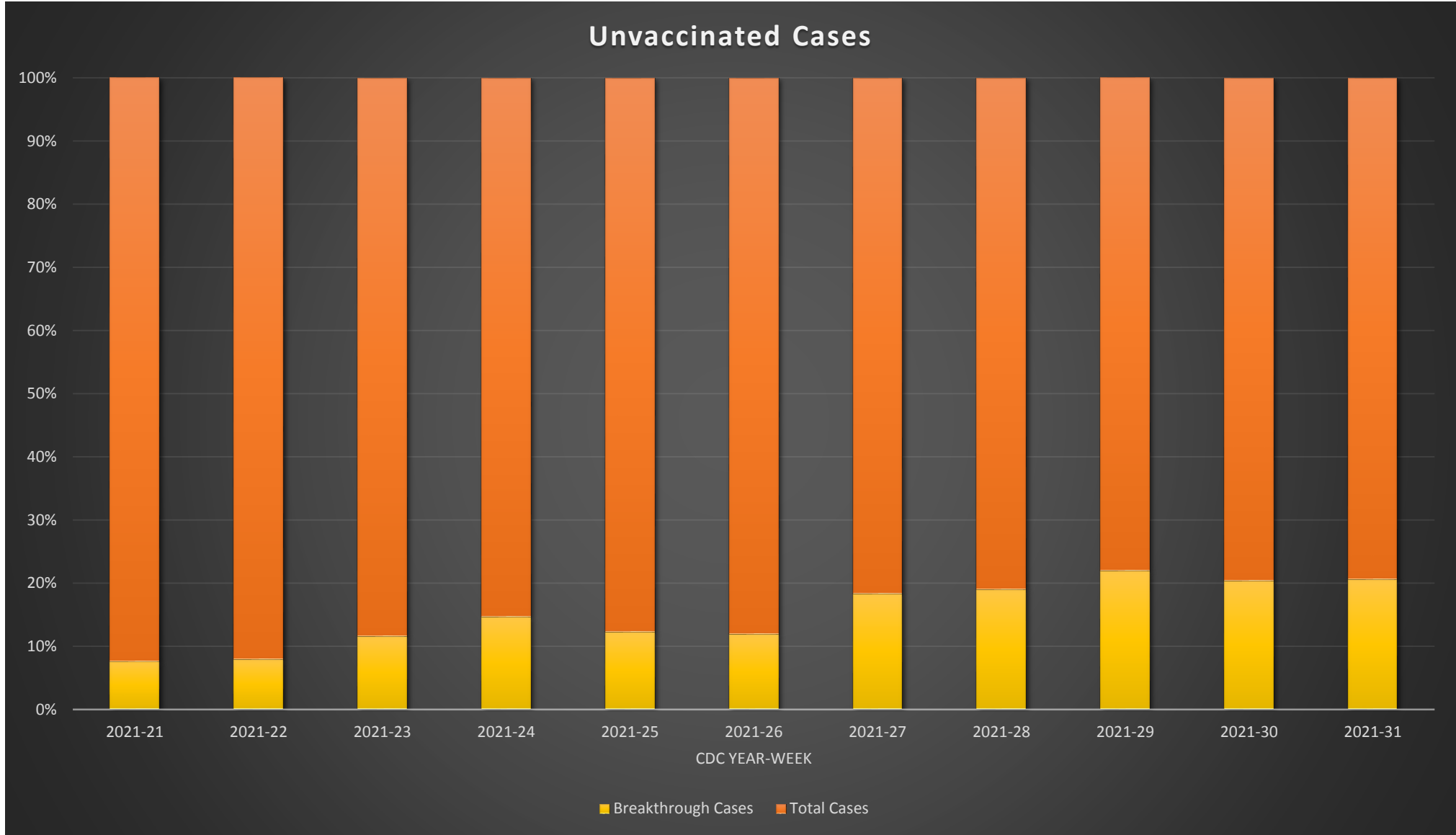
Cases/Hospitalizations



Cases by Age Group



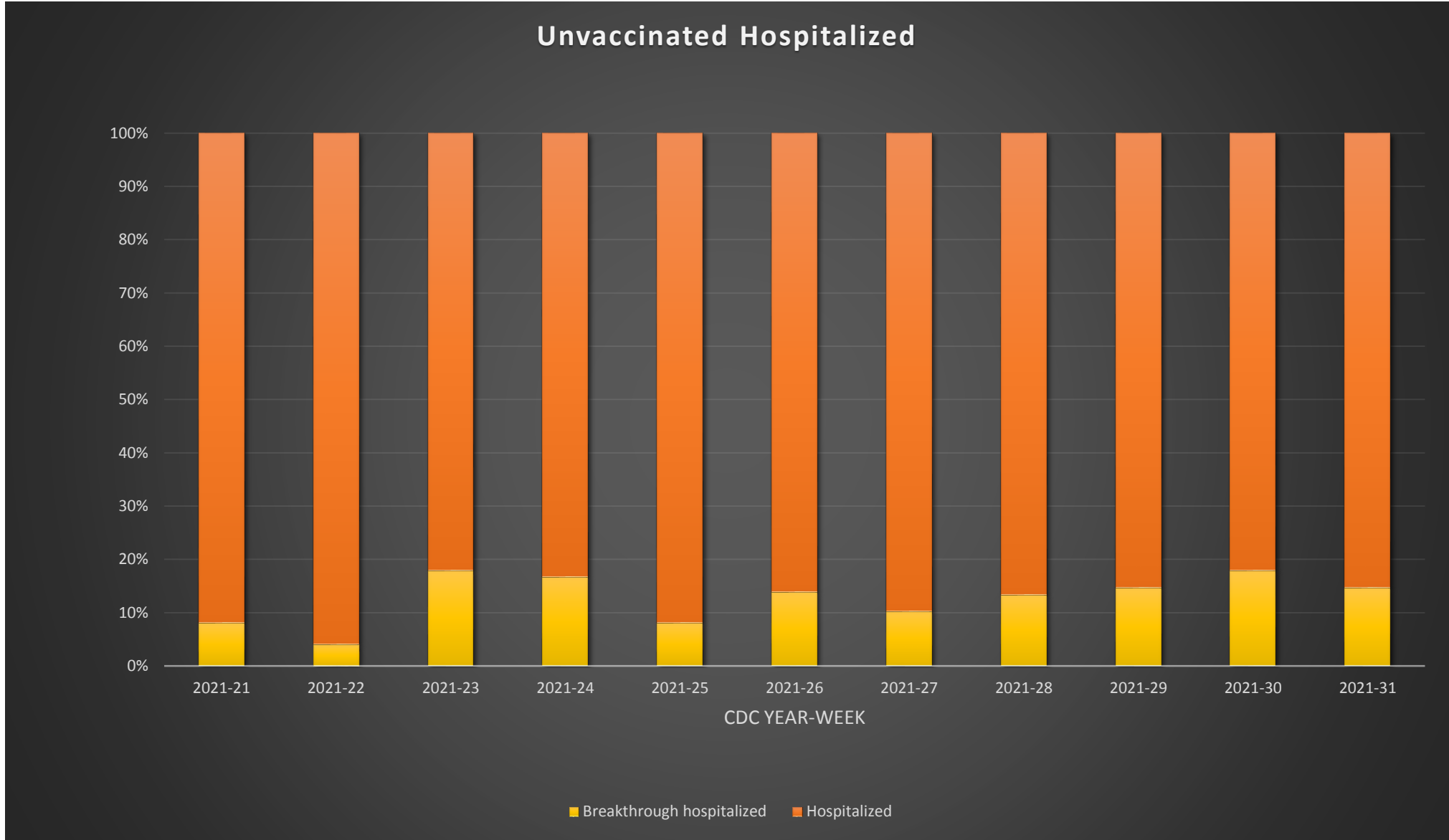




COVID-19 Hospitalizations

- ❖ Hospitalizations have seen a very slow increase
- ❖ Last 4 weeks only 7.7% of cases were hospitalized
- ❖ Last 4 weeks 82.2% of people admitted to hospitals were unvaccinated
- ❖ Immunization against COVID-19 is the best defense against hospitalization and death.
- ❖ Hospitalizations more frequent in adults.

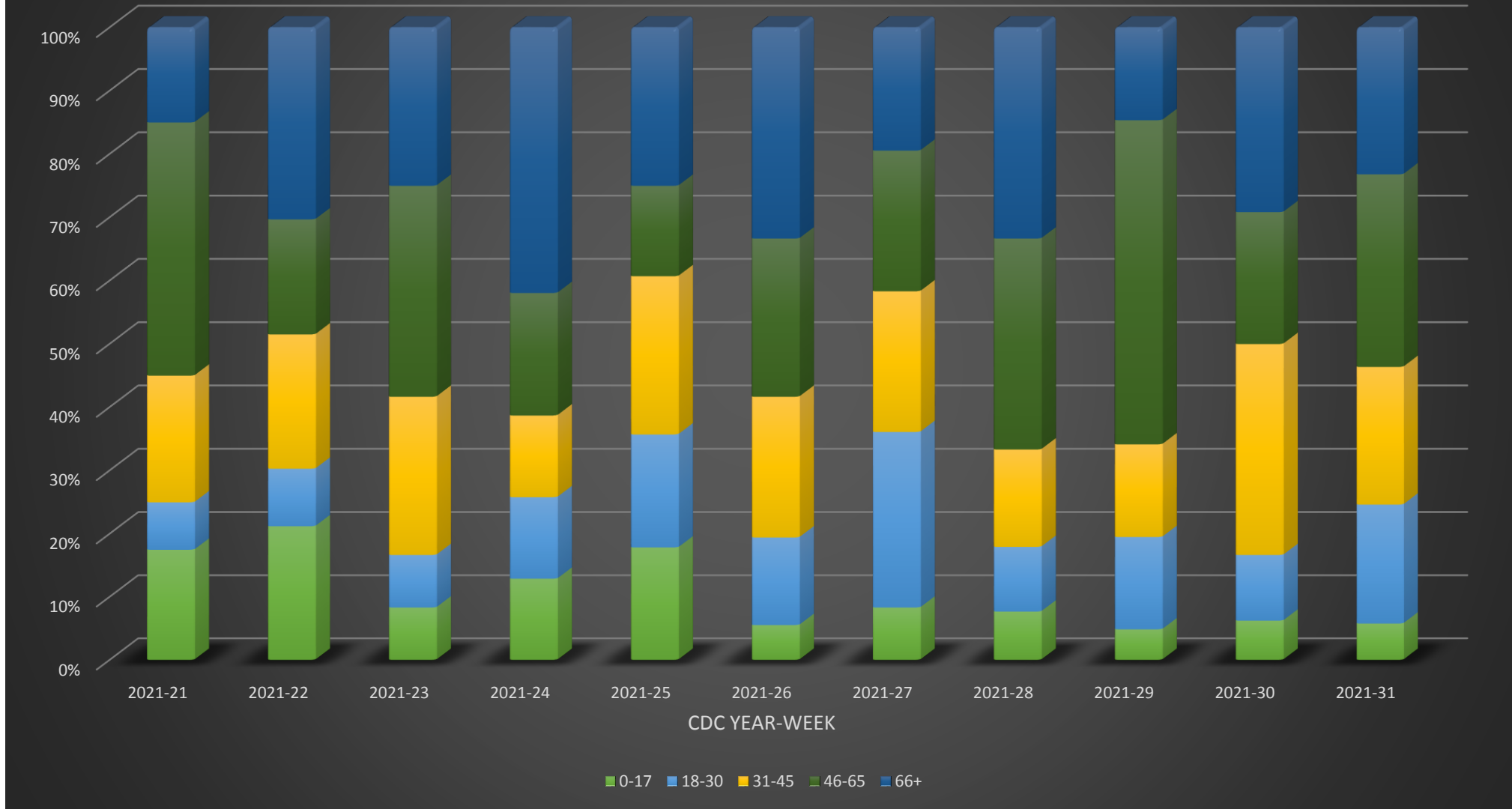
Unvaccinated Hospitalized



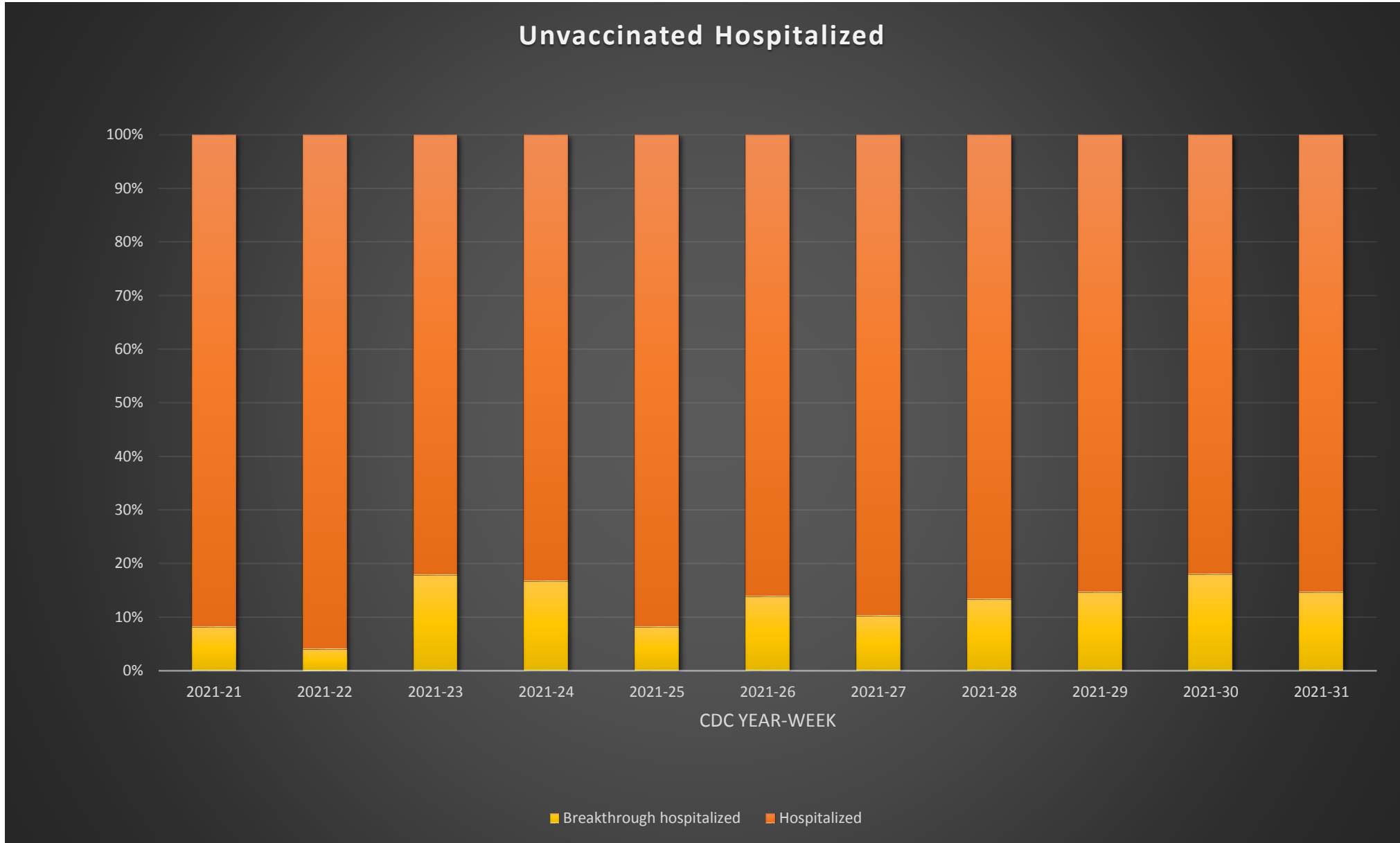
■ Breakthrough hospitalized ■ Hospitalized



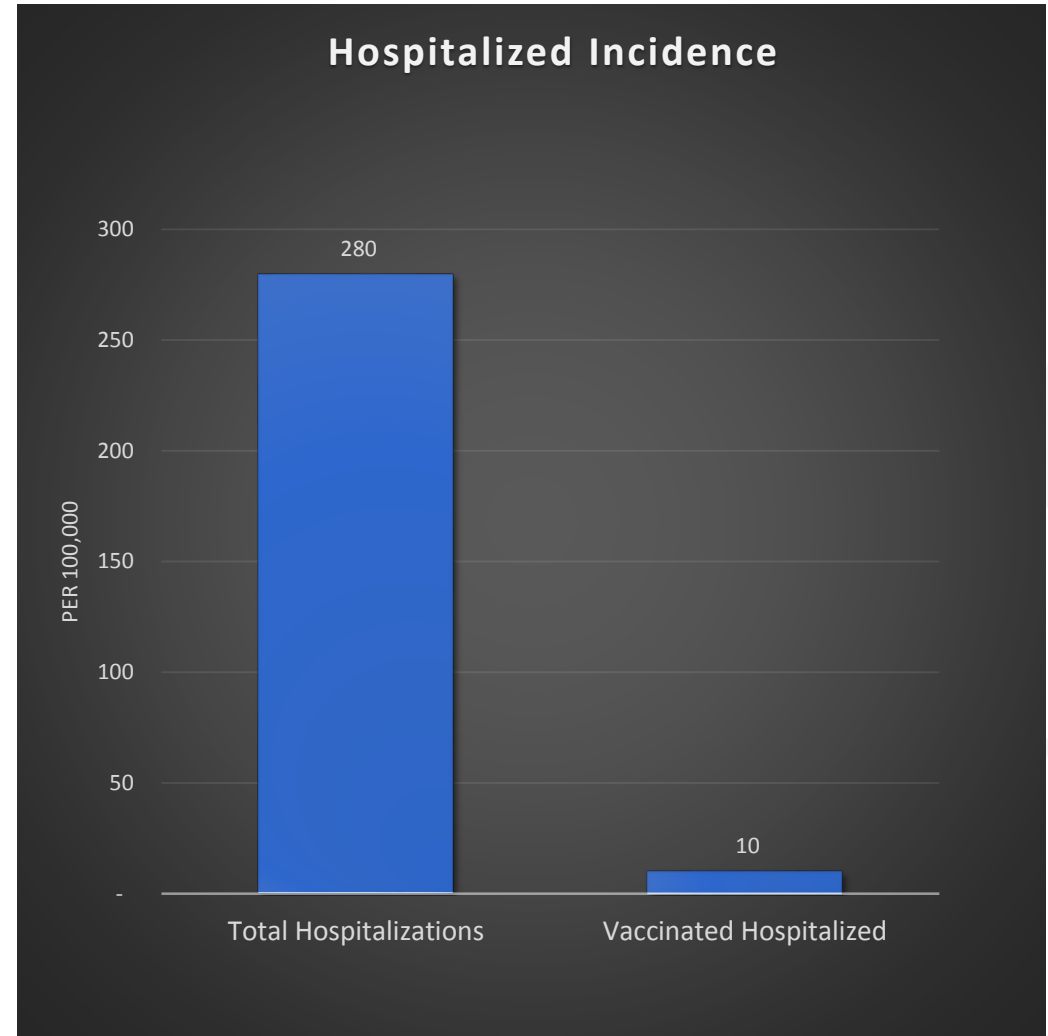
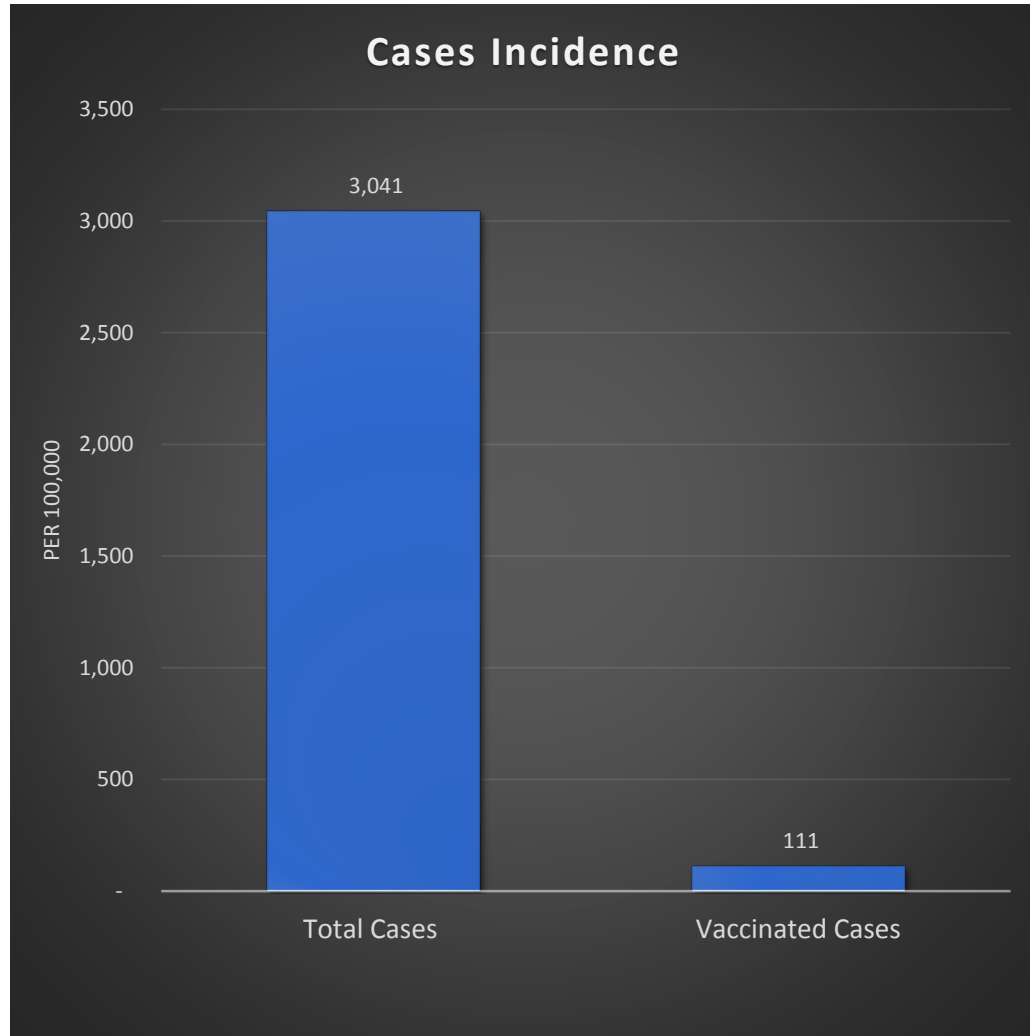
Hospitalization Age Distribution



Unvaccinated Hospitalized



Risk Reduction with Vaccination





b. Economic Recovery

Small Business Focus

Mirella Craigo



Overview

- Initial Small Business Assistance and Recovery Plan presented to City Council on January 19, 2021
- Our team has been working on the Small Business Assistance and Recovery Program
 - What we have done
 - What we are working on
 - Feedback from local businesses and business partners
 - Recommendations on funding for future initiatives





Economic Response + Recovery

City Funds	
Small Business Recovery Program	\$ 3,000,000
Total	\$ 3,000,000

\$24,750,000

Total Economic Support

Federal Funds	
Small Business Financial Assistance	\$ 17,900,000
Small Business Financial, Legal, Technical Assistance	\$400,000
Business Resource Clearinghouse	\$156,000
Business Safety Alteration Financial Assistance	\$1,990,000
Safety Product Access + Supply Chain	\$400,000
Contact Tracing + Work Safe Assistance + Training	\$100,000
Downtown Sanitation Program	\$113,000
Downtown Outdoor Dining	\$80,000
E-Commerce Platform Development + Technical Assistance	\$450,000
E-Commerce + Digital Platform Training	\$100,000
“Buy Local” Marketing Initiative	\$577,000
Childcare Assistance	\$50,000
Total	\$21,750,000

House Committee on Education and Labor

March 24, 2021 - Portia Wu, Managing Director of Public Policy, US Government Affairs at Microsoft



Dream Makers Fund

How the Dream Makers Fund Works

It all starts with YOU!



1. Donate to the Fund

2. Your \$ gets invested into diverse businesses



3. Those businesses repay their loans so more businesses are served.

- \$600,000 City Investment
 - Small business loans of up to \$25,000
 - Low 6% interest rate – through interest buy down
- Fundraiser held with financial institutions

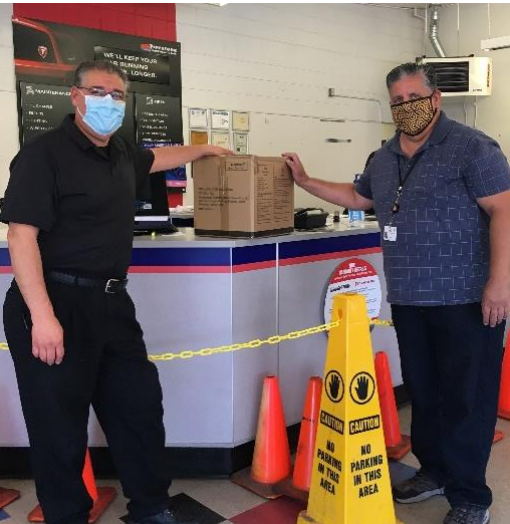




Business Roundtables

- Continue to cultivate relationship with the business community
- Conducted virtual roundtables with Mayor and all Members of City Council
- Focused on relationship building, policy recommendations, and solutions





PPE Distribution

6 Tons of PPE donated by AT&T and Walmart distributed to local businesses!



Ride The Summer Wave Job Fair

WORKFORCE
SOLUTIONS • HUBBARDPLEX

- Championed by District 5 - Representative Salcido and District 6 - Representative Rodriguez
- 105 Employers





Helping El Paso Businesses Thrive



Financial & Technical Assistance

Local, state, and federal opportunities for financial and technical assistance.

[Learn More](#)



Upcoming Events

Upcoming webinars, training, and events to help your business thrive.

[Learn More](#)



Business Resources

Whether you're looking to start or grow your business the resources and organizations listed below will provide support.

[Learn More](#)



Made In El Paso

Many products are manufactured right here in El Paso. Use our dashboard of local manufacturers to source your operating needs locally and help boost our economy.

[Learn More](#)

BUY El Paso


TASTEBUDS


GOODTIMES


BUY IT

BUY 
El Paso
Adventures


TREAT YO' SELF


CULTURA


WHY BUY EP



Tastebuds, Goodtimes, Buy It

Upper Valley Artists and Farmers Market

By Buy El Paso August 12, 2021



Cultura

New Adventures Coming Soon

By Buy El Paso August 12, 2021



Goodtimes, Cultura

New Adventures Coming Soon

By Buy El Paso August 12, 2021



Buy It, Cultura

New Adventures Coming Soon!

By Buy El Paso August 11, 2021





Business Advisory Committee

- Comprised of frontline business resource partners
- Have had five meetings to date
- Positive feedback on getting all the partners together in one place for businesses
- Grateful we are leaning on them to provide us with actionable feedback

Virtual Business Town Halls

- 17 Partner organizations presented elevator speech
 - Recorded session on epbusinessstrong.org
 - Digital Business Resource Pamphlet
 - Physical copy of the Business Resource Pamphlet to be distributed during block walks
- Planning & Inspections / Robert Read
- Purchasing & Strategic Sourcing / Aimee Olivas



Small Business Management Institute

- City sponsored graduation class (July 2021)
- Five City ED staff members completed the certification course

Introduction to Strategic Planning

Building a Strategic Plan

Introduction to Marketing

Developing a Marketing Action Plan

Human Resources

Business and Contract Law

Administration and Accounting

Understanding Financial Statements

Analyzing Financial Statements

Forecasting and Break-Even Analysis

Financing the Business

Business Resources

Direct Business Retention Communication

- Continue reaching out to businesses to offer assistance and support via phone and resource newsletters

Economic Development Newsletter

City of El Paso Economic & International Development Department

May 2021

In this Issue

- El Paso Economic Climate
- Restaurant Revitalization Fund
- Start a Business in Texas
- Shuttered Venue Operators Grants
- El Paso International Airport Development
- Small Business Management Institute



El Paso Economic

El Paso Economic Climate



Economic Development Ambassador Education Task Force – Fellowship Program

- Onboarded four fellows who work with multiple districts across the City
- Outreach to small business is ongoing
- Partnered with Workforce Borderplex for paid fellowships

Small Business Concerns

- Uncertainty due to Delta Variant
- Rental and Utility Assistance
- Labor Shortage
- Inflation



4. City Manager Wrap Up

Tommy Gonzalez



Thank you!