

The ABCs of COVID-19 Within Schools

Welcome to the ABCs of COVID-19 Within Schools newsletter, where you can learn about COVID-19 trends across school districts, receive updates on the latest data, get tips for entering your data, and read the latest on COVID-19 and schools.



Participation Update

Three additional school districts have agreed to participate since our last newsletter. 16 states are currently represented, and school districts are reporting data on:

- More than 2,500 elementary, middle, and high schools
- More than 1,300,000 students who attended in-person instruction
- More than 160,000 staff who worked in school and administrative buildings

Second Data Review Session Held Dec. 16, 2021

The second review of The ABCs of COVID-19 Within Schools data was presented to participating school districts on Dec. 16, 2021.

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Some of the key takeaways from the data review session include:

- Masking reduces secondary transmission substantially: 3-fold estimate
 - The impact of masking in the relationship between infections acquired outside of school and infections acquired at school
 - In UN-masked districts, a 10% increase in infections acquired outside of school results in 27% more infections acquired at school.
 - In districts with changes to masking policy, or masking in some grades but not others, a 10% increase in infections results in 11% more infections acquired at school.
 - In districts with universal masking policy, a 10% increase in results in 4% more infections acquired at school.
- Community transmission **does not matter** to make the decision if schools should be open because if you mask you can deliver education safely.
- Community transmission **does matter** as to what mitigation you decide to provide, and masking makes a big difference as community transmission goes up.