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Healthy Yolo Together: A Public Health Project of UC Davis, Final Report

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Authors

Tull, Renetta G
Jean-Baptiste, Rachel
Barbu, Sophie
[et al.](#)

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HEALTHY YOLO TOGETHER

A Public Health Project of UC Davis

UCDAVIS
DIVERSITY, EQUITY
AND INCLUSION

January 2021 – June 2022

FINAL REPORT

Institute for Diversity, Equity, and Advancement (IDEA)

Renetta Garrison Tull
Rachel Jean-Baptiste
Elaina Lopez
Ebony Lewis
Vickie Gomez

Culturally Relevant Marketing and Communications Team

Sophie J. Barbu
Tom O'Donnell
Ibrahim B. Anoba
Sunny Yang
Jose Cárdenas
Shamyah Stone
Elanor "Ella" Sands
Inhim Choi
Marisa Davidson
Stephanie Jiminez
Bea Rondon
Vineela Donthi
Analei Garcia
Stephanie Ha
Umaima Hamid

Diversity Training Team

Mikael Villalobos
Megan Macklin
Sunny Dosanjh

COVID Diaries Team

Patrice Hill
Denisha "Coco" Bland
Natalia Deeb-Sossa

Mental Health Initiative Team

Cory Vu
Emilia George
Carol Swafford

Parenting in a Pandemic Team

Anya Free
Jenni-Tifft Ochoa
Oluwasola Daniels



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Executive Summary

Healthy Yolo Together (HYT), also known as Healthy Davis Together (HDT), is a joint project of the City of Davis and UC Davis. It is designed to prevent the spread of COVID-19 through the development of access to testing and vaccines, the dissemination of accurate information to counter misinformation, and the facilitation of a gradual return to regular city activities. The project commenced in September 2020 with a focus on Davis but later expanded to Yolo County.

HYT created platforms for public health experts to engage the public on how to manage personal, familial, and community affairs during the pandemic. HYT programs and campaigns featured epidemiologists, pediatricians, counselors, psychologists, and musicians in conversations with mothers, caregivers, students, and small business owners. HYT embodied the quality of a community project. It collaborated with businesses, social organizations, and student groups to organize virtual and in-person events throughout the City of Davis, Yolo County, and the UC Davis campus.

In 2021, HYT partnered with the UC Davis Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) on funding to execute initiatives that reach underserved communities, people of color, and minoritized communities impacted by Covid-19. This report demonstrates how all the programs, initiatives, and events implemented under the HYT-DEI grant helped mitigate the effects of COVID-19, through the following:

Culturally Relevant Marketing and Social Media initiative (CRMSC)

- Described in part 1, this initiative developed social media content with the aim of reducing the disproportionate effects that COVID-19 has had on underrepresented and underserved communities in Yolo County and its surrounding areas. It also promoted its messaging at testing site selfie stations and COVID-19-related events across Yolo County and the City of Davis. This report highlights its significant reach and impact.

Diversity & Inclusion Education and Training Initiative (DIETI)

- Described in part 2, this initiative prioritized mitigating the influence of racism and discrimination in the public's reaction to the pandemic. It offered various educational opportunities to UC Davis staff, faculty, and students that addressed the fostering of an inclusive and respectful campus environment.

Parenting in a Pandemic Initiative (PIP)

- Described in part 3, this initiative created webinars to educate and support diverse parents and caregivers of Yolo County and the greater Sacramento area. It helped communities navigate the changing landscapes of the pandemic to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and keep their children and families safe.

Mental Health Initiative (MHI)

- Described in part 5, this initiative provided grants, financial aid, and mental health professional support to UC Davis students for mental health needs specifically due to the impacts of the pandemic. It also provided support in terms of grants and events to support students in adhering to COVID-19 mitigation measures.

COVID Diaries (CD)

- As described in part 4, COVID Diaries is a community-based participatory research project between Sacramento Youth Area Speaks (SAYS) and the UC Davis DEI's Institute of Diversity, Equity and Advancement (IDEA), with the goal of reducing the spread of COVID-19 in marginalized communities in urban areas, in particular, the Black and Latinx communities. The project analysis will be completed in August 2022, however, some preliminary data have been included that show how these data link to the project's overall goal of empowering youth to make sound health decisions and act as influencers of effective health decisions about COVID-19 in their communities.

1) Culturally Relevant Marketing and Social Media

March 2021 – March 2022

The Culturally Relevant Marketing and Social Media (CRMSC) team developed campaigns and social media posts, including videos and still graphics, aimed at promoting information on how to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among minority communities in Yolo County and the City of Davis. From distributing pamphlets on COVID-19 at events to implementing several social media campaigns, the CRMSC initiative prioritized content creation that would reach a larger and more diverse audience. To this effect, it created content in English, Spanish, and Russian, targeting several distinct religious and cultural groups.

Social Media Posts

CRMSC developed standalone content or graphics that each addressed topics related to COVID-19 mitigation. Content changed each week according to the urgent and prevailing issues about the pandemic, such as where to find vaccination centers in the community and exercising caution at large gatherings during certain holidays.

Campaigns and Videos

CRMSC also created a collection of videos or graphics addressing broader issues related to public behavior and understanding of the pandemic. For example, the CRMSC team produced several short videos featuring public health experts affiliated with UC Davis answering questions collected from people in the community on coping mechanisms during the pandemic. One of such planned campaigns, titled "[#GanacontraCOVID-19](https://twitter.com/HealthyDavis/status/1465832055179296777)" featured Dr. Sergio Aguilar an expert in mental health and professor of internal medicine.* Dr. Aguilar addressed questions that the CRMSC team collected from people across the Davis and Yolo Country in Spanish. It targeted the Spanish-speaking community in a series of videos posted on the HYT social media pages. Another campaign, titled "[#COVID-19Expert](https://twitter.com/HealthyDavis/status/1473410022910660618)" featured Dr. Miriam Nuno, a professor of biostatistics and surgery. The CRMSC team also created several videos where Dr. Nuno answered questions about vaccinating children and managing the household during the pandemic.

The impact of CRMSC's content on disseminating information about COVID-19 to the community through social media can be measured by looking at the reach of its videos and graphics and how people engage them.

#GanacontraCOVID-19: <https://twitter.com/HealthyDavis/status/1465832055179296777>;
<https://twitter.com/HealthyDavis/status/1473410022910660618>; <https://twitter.com/HealthyDavis/status/1470861200430977027>

In all, CRMSC videos and graphics reached more than 1.3 million Twitter users and 600,000 Instagram users in twelve months. These campaigns also attracted more than 11,000 reactions and comments. The reach of content created by the CRMSC team is illustrated in figures 5, 6, 7, and 8. As illustrated in figure 5, most of CRMSC's reach was on Facebook, followed by Instagram and Twitter. The highest media engagement, which was about 2,800 in likes, comments, shares, retweets, etc., happened within the first three months of the team's efforts between March 2021 and April 2021. The months of September 2021 and October 2021 were the second most productive months for CRMSC with content attracting close to 2,600 engagements. The numbers presented in figure 6 are the number of people who saw CRMSC content on Instagram while figure 7 indicates that from Twitter. Meanwhile, CRMSC content also generated 11,423 engagements on Facebook through the project's life span, which is the most from any of the social media platforms. We do not have data for the amount of reach or impressions for Facebook. More so, data further indicates that CRMSC content reached more than 1.2 million people on Twitter and a little over 80,000 on Instagram between March 2021 and March 2022.

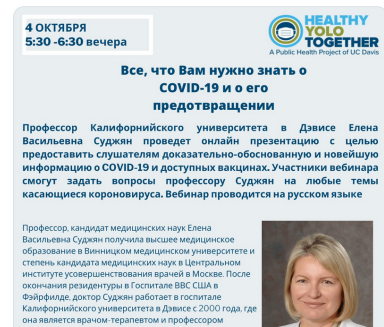
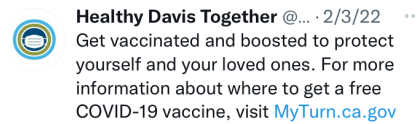
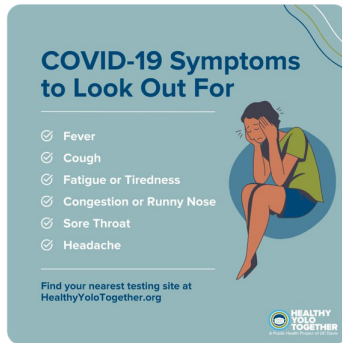
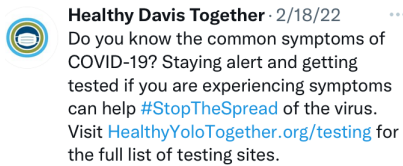
Equally, CRMSC promoted asymptomatic testing at selfie stations across Yolo County and the City of Davis. It created a selfie station gift card incentives program to encourage visitation to the stations for asymptomatic testing. It provided \$2,500 worth of gift cards from local businesses. These gift cards were given to anyone who visited the HYT selfie stations and completed a COVID-19-related demographic survey, and post a picture taken at the selfie station on social media with #HealthyDavisTogether. The CRMSC team participated in one in-person event organized by DEI partner organizations, to promote Healthy Davis/Yolo Together (see figures 1 and 2). The event was a backpack and school supply drive jointly organized by HYT and Yolo County Children's Alliance (YCCA) held on July 31, 2021, which supported underserved and underrepresented minority community members. Flyers with essential public health information and backpacks with school supplies were given to over 300 cars/walk-ups. In total, CRMSC team members helped distribute nearly 500 colored pencil packs, 300 flyers, and postcards. CRMSC team members also met the Mayor of West Sacramento who was enthusiastic about HYT's work.



Figures 1 and 2: CRMSC team distributing flyers (left) and assisting YCCA in distributing COVID-19 gift packs in Yolo County (right)



Figures 3 (left) and 4 (right): Screenshots of HYT creatives on Instagram



Figures 5 (up left) and 6 (up right) 7 (d. left) and 8 (d. right): Screenshots of HYT creatives on Twitter

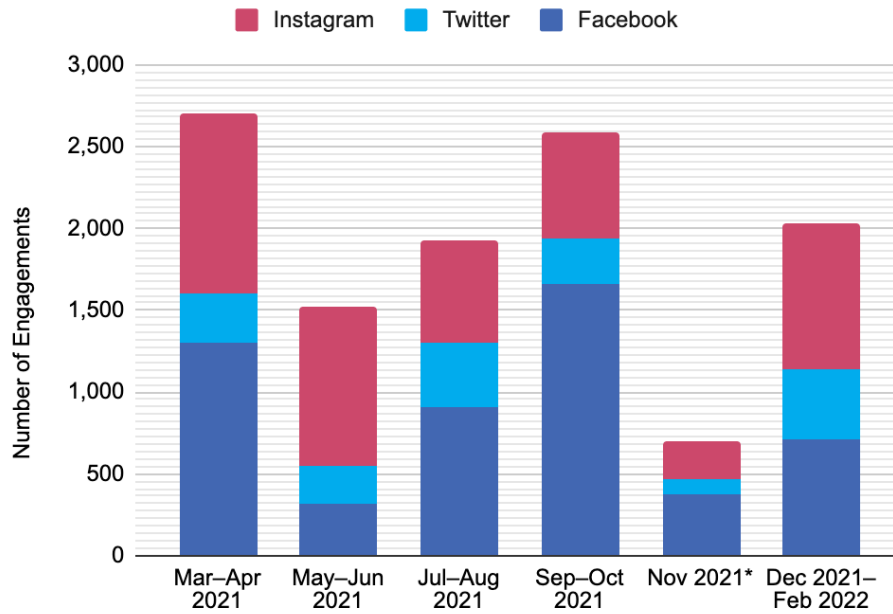


Figure 9: Monthly Post Engagement on Social Media

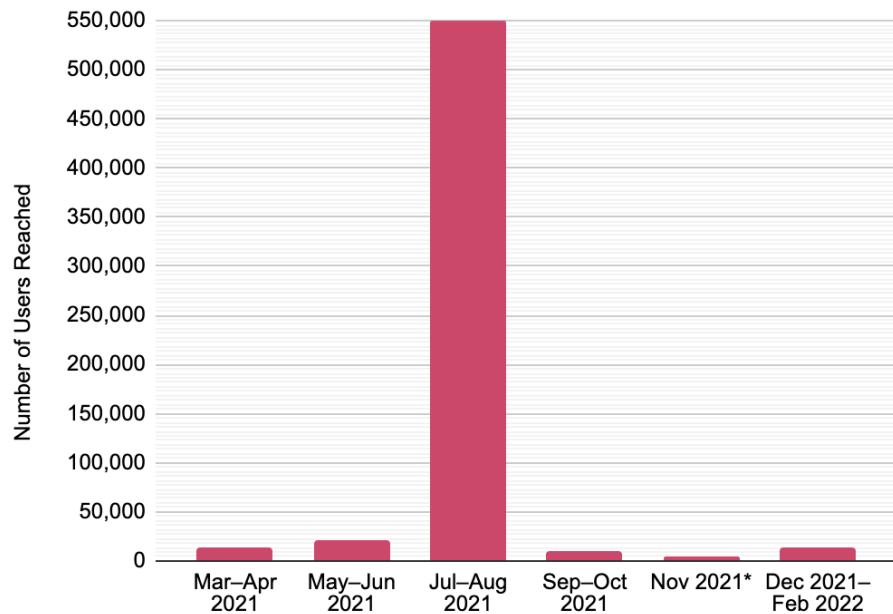


Figure 10: Monthly Reach on Instagram

*November 2021 data social media engagement data was reported separate from the other months. HYT-DEI no longer has access to the original data files to disaggregate the remaining months to show them all individually

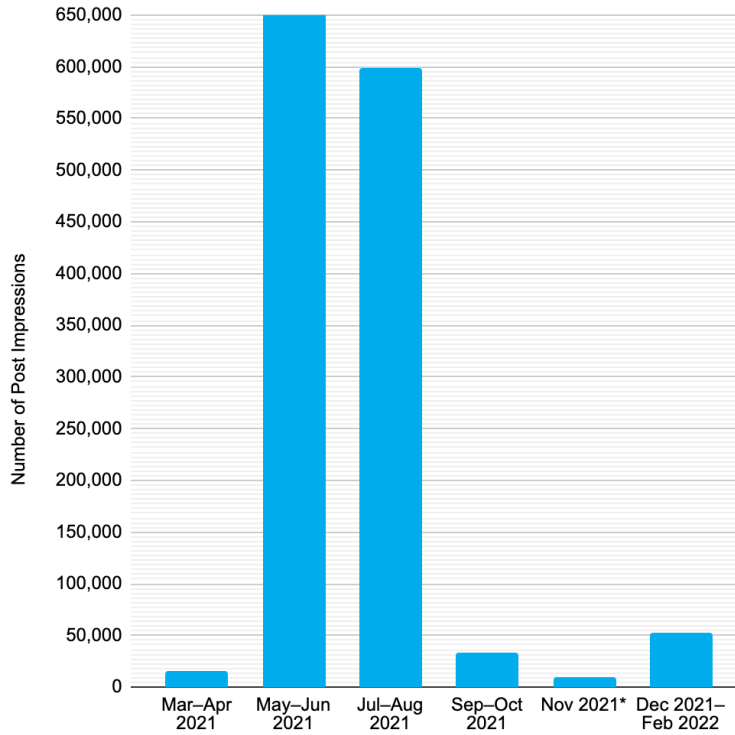


Figure 11: Monthly Post Impressions on Twitter

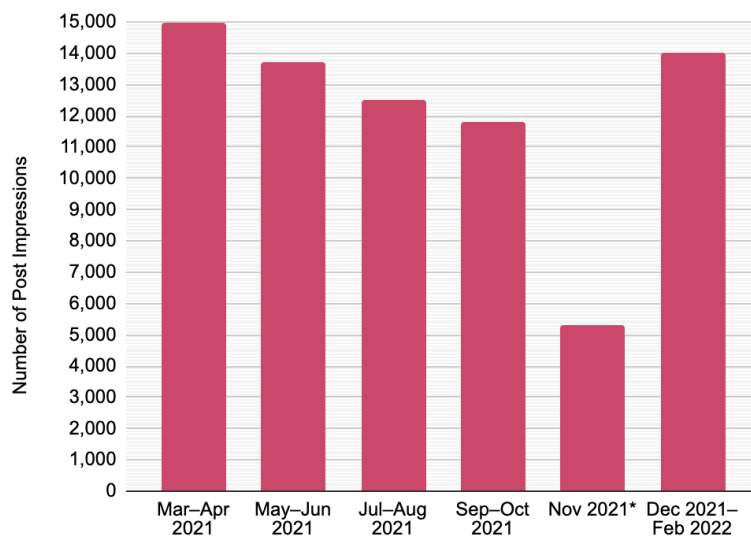


Figure 12: Monthly Post Impressions on Instagram

*November 2021 data social media engagement data was reported separate from the other months. HYT-DEI no longer has access to the original data files to disaggregate the remaining months to show them all individually

2) Diversity & Inclusion Education and Training Initiative

January 2021 – May 2021

The Diversity & Inclusion Education and Training Initiative (DIETI) offered various educational opportunities to UC Davis staff, faculty, and students that addressed the fostering of an inclusive and respectful campus environment. DIETI efforts honored the university's diverse campus principles and operationalized its principles of community. DIETI also promoted anti-racism education in relation to the pandemic. Trainers offered person-to-person (online or in-person) individual or small group training on bias, principles of community, anti-bullying, anti-racism as it relates to health issues, and the re-opening of campus and community during the pandemic.

DEITI campaigns centered around three main goals: to analyze and disseminate data on the disparate health and economic impact of COVID-19 on communities of color and the LGBTQIA+ communities; to identify and develop and disseminate content addressing anti-Asian racism and violence; to research, develop, and disseminate resource lists, fact sheets, and social media content related to COVID-19 bias, anti-racism, health inequities, and the transition from physical distancing; to develop training modules to decrease bias in the implementation of Covid mitigation strategies.

In pursuit of this agenda, DEITI hosted 35 seminars, workshops, and training sessions. Details of these programs are explained on the next page. These programs attracted more than 1,600 participants, including campus staffers, students, residents of Yolo and neighboring counties, parents, administrators, and many others. The aim of delivering anti-bias training to Aggie Ambassadors was not completed because it took many months to develop new training modules that incorporated information about Covid.

The 50 seminars and workshops were designed around 10 offerings which are explained in table 1. Each offering had a set of aims that guided its programming. For example, the 'making the unconscious conscious' module was designed to promote the attitudes of tolerance among participants and avail them of the awareness of actions that may come off as discriminatory to certain demographics. As it has been widely reported, hate crime relating to COVID-19 was a major public safety concern in the US. This referenced module trained the 660 participants who participated in its 27 sessions on how to identify, understand and mitigate personal bias. Other modules gave participants tools in effective cross-cultural communication and the ethics of doing business under COVID-19.

Table 1 shows the number of sessions organized under each offering. It also illustrates the number of attendees for specific sessions for which data is available.

Table 1: Diversity & Inclusion Education Program

Training conducted	Timeline	Sessions	Attendees
Making the Unconscious Conscious: Understanding and Mitigating Bias (module/seminar included an exploration of bias in the world of COVID)	Jan–May 2021	14	660
Microaggressions: Towards Greater Awareness and Understanding (module/seminar included an exploration of microaggressions in the world of COVID)	Jan–May 2021	6	110
Diversity Awareness Workshop (module/seminar diversity in the world of COVID)	Jan–May 2021	2	66
Avoiding Bias in the Hiring Process (module/seminar explored bias within hiring in the world of COVID)	Jan–May 2021	7	792
Leading and Managing in a Multicultural Community (module/seminar explored leadership in the world of COVID)	Jan–May 2021	1	28
Diversity Awareness for New Supervisors and Leads (module/seminar explored diversity for new supervisors in the world of COVID)	Jan–May 2021	1	36
Unpacking Oppression (module/seminar explored oppression in the world of COVID)	May 2021	1	86
Understanding Diversity and Social Justice (module/seminar explored social justice in the world of COVID)	May 2021	2	52
Aspiring Allies (module/seminar explored exploration of Allyship in the world of COVID)	May 2021	1	66
Culturally Inclusive Language (module/seminar explored inclusive language in the world of COVID)	May 2021	N/A	N/A

3) Parenting in a Pandemic Initiative

July 2021 – January 2022

The Parenting in a Pandemic Initiative (PIP) organized events, primarily Zoom webinars and meetings, to educate and support parents and caregivers of children in UC Davis, the City of Davis, Yolo County, and beyond. PIP helped these communities navigate the changing landscapes of the pandemic while keeping their children and families safe. The initiative took a multicultural approach to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 by partnering with pediatricians and primary care physicians of diverse cultural and national backgrounds to give parents, caregivers, and underrepresented communities up-to-date evidence-based information in clear and accessible ways.

From July 2021 to January 2022, PIP held 11 online webinars* and meetings. Webinar topics included the return to in-person school, COVID-19 vaccinations for children, the effects of COVID-19 on the African-American community, and adolescent mental health. Programming was also offered in Spanish and Russian.

Impact and Data

Biographic data gathered from participants who registered for and attended the webinars and meetings indicate that the majority were parents, while a smaller fraction were either caregivers or non-parent participants. For example, in the post-survey for the November 16, 2021 webinar on "How to Keep your Family and Children Safe from COVID-19" featuring Dr. Michael Lucien, 54.5% (24 responses) of the respondents were parents, 25% (11 responses) were not parents, 9.1% (4 responses) were caregivers, and 11.4% (5 responses) declined to state (*see table 2*). Among the 43 total respondents, only 4 identified as white or Caucasian. Exactly 37 respondents identified as Black, Asian, or Hispanic descent. This biographic data, which is similar to those obtained during other webinars under the PIP initiative, revealed that the efforts put into advertising webinars on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter to attract a diverse audience were successful.

Although response was low, the PIP team conducted post-event surveys to attempt to capture the impact of webinars on the uptake of COVID mitigation measures discussed by doctors, especially vaccination. For example, the post-event survey for the July 7 2021 webinar on "COVID-19 Vaccines and Children" indicated that 60% of respondents (9 responses) would be more likely to vaccinate their children, and 20% (3 responses) would vaccinate their children before and after the webinar. Only 6.7% (1 response) indicated that the webinar did not change their mind. Given that one of the main purposes of the PIP initiative was to influence parents from minority communities to consider the COVID-19 mitigation recommendations from public health experts, this data demonstrates the positive impact of delivering health information in a culturally relevant manner. Although these recordings were made for the HYT projects and during home-schooling, they will remain useful resources considering the public health situation remains changeable.

*Recordings to the webinars can be found here: <https://idea.ucdavis.edu/dei-hdt-parenting-pandemic-initiative>.

Table 2: Parenting in a Pandemic Webinars and Meetings
Totaling about 1,300 viewers

Topic	Date	Details	Live Attendees	Views on YouTube as of June 23, 2022
Covid-19 Vaccines and Children: A Panel Discussion	Jul 7, 2021	Dr. Dean Blumberg (professor and chief of pediatric infectious diseases at UC Davis Children's Hospital) and Dr. Lena van der List (general pediatrician at UC Davis)	67	122
Covid-19 and Children: Vaccines and Back to School	Aug 30, 2021	Dr. Dean Blumberg (professor and chief of pediatric infectious diseases at UC Davis Children's Hospital) and Dr. Lena van der List (general pediatrician at UC Davis) answered questions about pediatric COVID-19, vaccine protection, and best measures for going back to school during the pandemic	158	114
Everything You need to Know about COVID-19 and its Prevention (Все, что Вам нужно знать о COVID-19 и о его предотвращении)	Oct 4, 2021	Dr. Elena V. Sudzhan (professor of medical sciences at UC Davis) presented COVID-19 and the latest update about vaccines in this Russian language webinar	23	82
COVID-19 among Children and Teenagers: Vaccine Options and Back to School (COVID-19 en Niños y Adolescentes: Variantes, Vacunas, y el Regreso a la Escuela)	Oct 6, 2021	Dr. Ivan Marquez (pediatrician at UC Davis Health) discussed the latest trends in COVID-19 cases, updates on variants and vaccines, and recommendations for back to school in this Spanish language webinar	13	320
Parenting Under Pandemic: How to Keep your Family and Children Safe from COVID-19	Nov 16, 2021	Dr. Michael Lucien (pediatrician at UC Davis Health) and Patrice Hill (SAYS) presented the latest trends in COVID-19 cases and updates on variants and vaccines.	31	122
[meeting] Doing It All When Your Children Are Small in a Pandemic: Ideas and Strategies For Student Parents and Their Partners	Nov 29, 2021	Dr. Diane Wolf (Professor of Sociology UC Davis)	6	N/A
COVID-19 and Vaccines for Children 5-11-Year-Old	Dec 2, 2021	Dr. Dean Blumberg (professor and chief of pediatric infectious diseases at UC Davis Children's Hospital) and Dr. Rachel Heidt (general pediatrician at UC Davis Medical Center) educated attendees on how best to keep children safe from the disease and what parents must consider before deciding on vaccination	83	43
[meeting] Maintain Tween and Teen Emotional and Mental Health in the Times of COVID-19	Dec 8, 2021	Tracy Thomas (UC Davis Student Health and Counseling Services)	11	N/A
[meeting] Little People, Big Worries: Understanding Childhood Anxiety and Fostering Resilience During COVID-19 Pandemic	Dec 13, 2021	Dr. Rebecca Hershberg (Clinical psychologist of early childhood social-emotional development and mental health)	8	N/A
The Effects of Covid on African American/Black Youth: How to Keep Your Family and Children Safe	Jan 11, 2022	Dr. Michael Lucien (pediatrician at UC Davis Health Community) and Denisha "Coco" Bland (co-director of Sacramento Area Youth Speaks) presented evidence-based, up-to-date, and accessible information about the current state of the COVID-19 pandemic, vaccines, boosters, and other strategies against COVID-19. After the presentation, participants asked several questions all of which culminated to make the webinar thoroughly fruitful	32	54

Entries with "N/A" under "Views on YouTube" were not recorded.

Event Highlights

In addition to the webinars, DEI-HYT coordinated an interview on December 9, 2021 featuring Dr. Elena Sudzhyan with Ethno FM 87.7, a Russian radio station in Sacramento. As of June 15, 2022, the interview's recording has more than 1,100 views on Facebook.

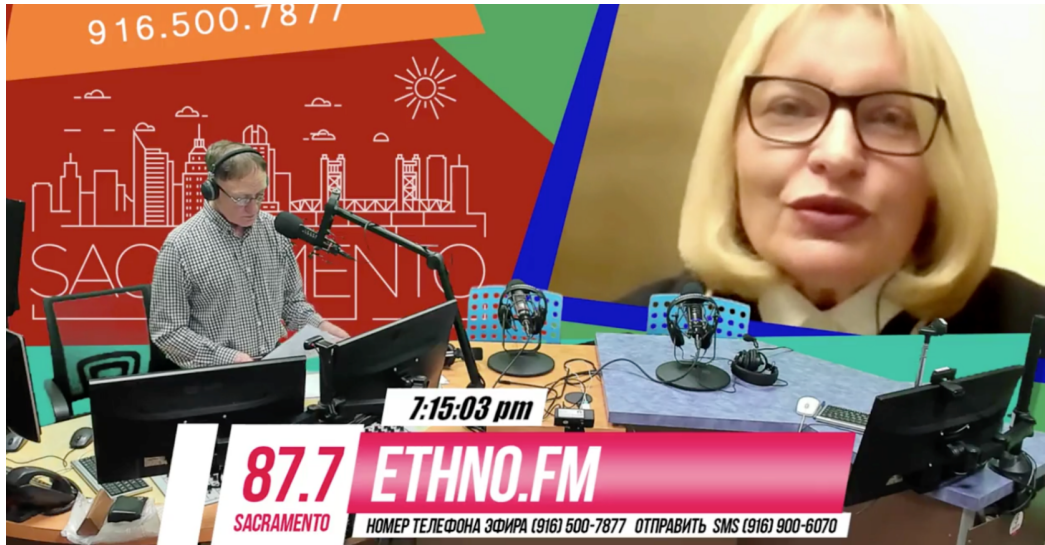


Figure 13: Dr. Elena Sudzhyan interview "Всё о вакцинации на радио Ethno FM в Сакраменто! (All about vaccinations on Ethno FM radio in Sacramento!)"

Link to Ethno FM 87.7 Radio recording: <https://www.facebook.com/ethnofm/videos/320746550050990/>

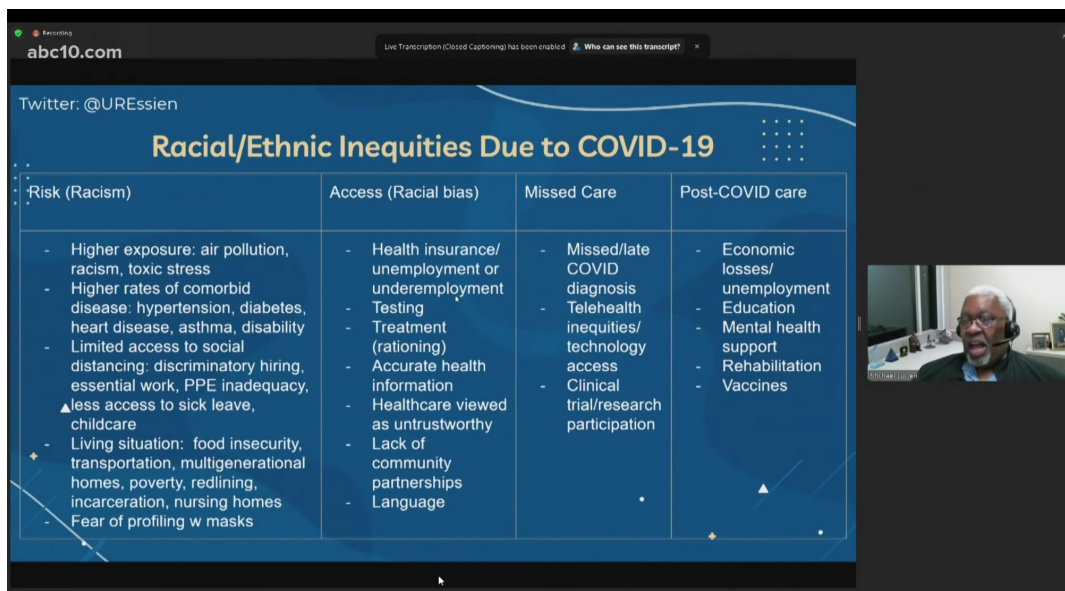


Figure 14: Sacramento-based ABC10 news featured the DEI-HYT webinar "The Effects of COVID on African American / Black Youth: How to Keep your Family and Children Safe" with Dr. Michael Lucien" in January 12, 2022 news clip.

Link to ABC10 news recording: <https://youtu.be/xccToFpnE30>

Event Highlights



Figure 15: Dr. Dean Blumberg answering questions during the webinar entitled "COVID-19 and Vaccines for 5-11-year-old"

Link to webinar recording : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lbBtfpryEwc&feature=youtu.be>



Figure 16: Dr. Ivan Marquez presenting a slide during the webinar entitled "COVID-19 en Niños y Adolescentes (variantes, vacunas, y el regreso a la escuela)"

Link to webinar recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WmYgCa2inRQ>

4) Mental Health Initiative

January 2021 – June 2021

In partnership with Cory Vu--the AVC for Health, Wellness, and Divisional Resources, and Student Affairs staff--the Mental Health Initiative (MHI) provided support to UC Davis students for mental health needs specifically due to the impacts of the pandemic. The initiative consisted of providing financial aid and income replacement to students in need due to pandemic quarantine measures, as well as hiring professionals to help with mental health needs and providing mental health workshops. It also provided support in terms of grants and events to support student groups in adhering to COVID-19 mitigation measures.

Studies show that 80% of college students have reported that COVID-19 has negatively impacted their mental health and that there has been a 90% increase in depression rates amid the rising number of suicides.* In response to the report by UC Davis students that their mental health has negatively impacted their academic success during the pandemic, awarded emergency mental health grants through the #ThisIsUCDavis mental health campaign. #ThisIsUCDavis was centered on three core values: diversity, mental health, and resilience. This campaign brought together the campus community featuring opportunities for student engagement, mental health support, and a shared commitment to supporting student mental well-being during COVID-19. Emergency mental health grants offered assistance to students to support transportation costs, copays for therapy, prescription medication, psychoeducational testing, basic hygiene supplies, and more, based on the assessment of students' financial aid status and COVID-19 mitigation. These grants prioritized students in the Latinx, African-American, and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander communities. The total amount disbursed to students was \$103,869.

*Sources:

- UC Davis, "How Has the Pandemic Affected College Students in California?" <https://www.ucdavis.edu/curiosity-gap/how-has-pandemic-affected-college-students-california>
- Chronicle of Higher Education, "Covid-19 Has Worsened the Student Mental-Health Crisis." Can Resilience Training Fix It?" https://www.chronicle.com/article/covid-19-has-worsened-the-student-mental-health-crisis-can-resilience-training-fix-it/?cid2=gen_login_refresh&cid=gen_sign_in
- PNAS, "Lifestyle and mental health disruptions during COVID-19," <https://www.pnas.org/content/118/9/e2016632118>
- ABC 7 "COVID pandemic's mental health burden heaviest among young adults," <https://abc7.com/cdc-mental-health-survey-covid-teens-depression-anxiety/10359279/>

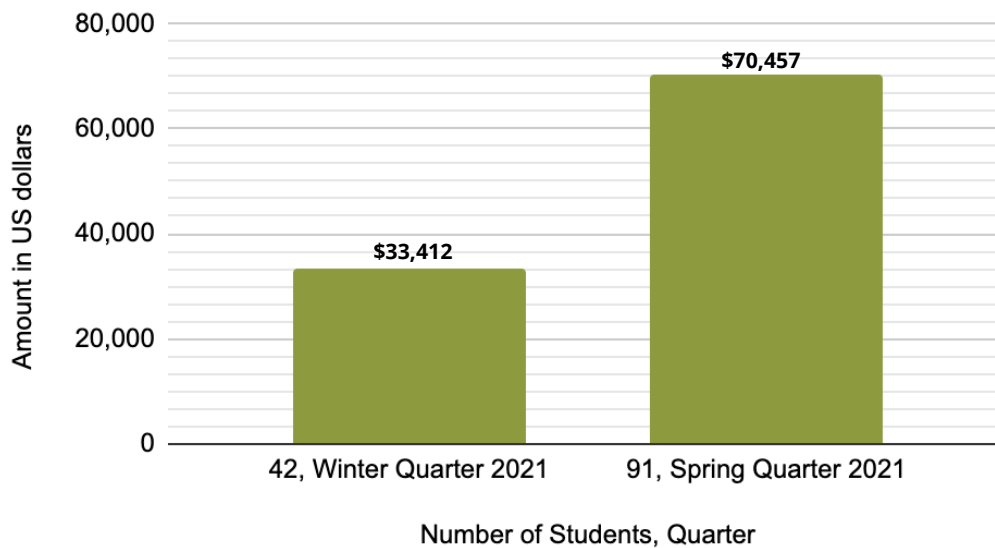


Figure 20: Total Amount Disbursed to Beneficiaries Per Quarter

The original solicitation did not state that mental health was explicitly tied to the pandemic as national literature and student data clearly document the impact of COVID-19 on increased student mental health conditions such as anxiety and depression. As the program was later refined, the terminology related to COVID-19 was added to the process and recipients are invited to retrospectively share how COVID-19 impacted their mental health. The grant applications gathered private health information and responses were not publicly shared to protect student confidentiality. The process was carefully crafted by mental health professionals to protect the sensitivity of mental health information and for the student's privacy. It offered an optional survey to all grant recipients, which allowed students to share how COVID-19 impacted their mental health.

In addition to the UC Davis Emergency Mental Health Grant, MHI also organized four mental health workshops and pieces of training to help students stay socially distanced. These include a mental health film and panel event in partnership with Art with Impact, an organization that promotes mental wellness by creating space for young people to learn and connect through art and media. The event engaged students in an active discussion about mental illness and wellness, stigma, and the media's role in our perceptions of these experiences, particularly in underrepresented communities.

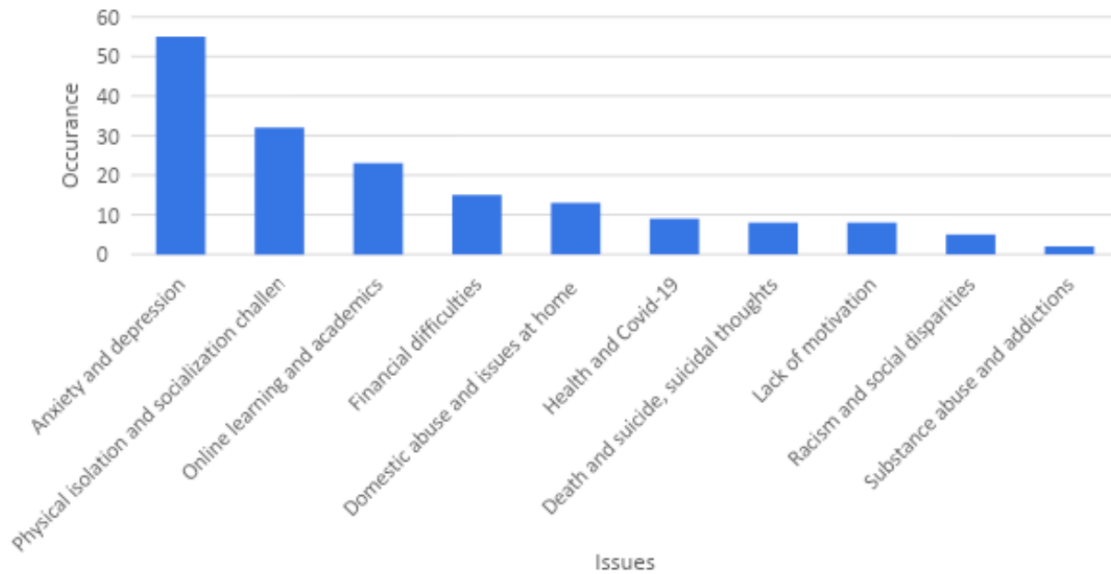


Figure 21: Factors reported by students who applied for UC Davis Emergency Mental Health Grant on how the Covid pandemic impacted their lives and academics

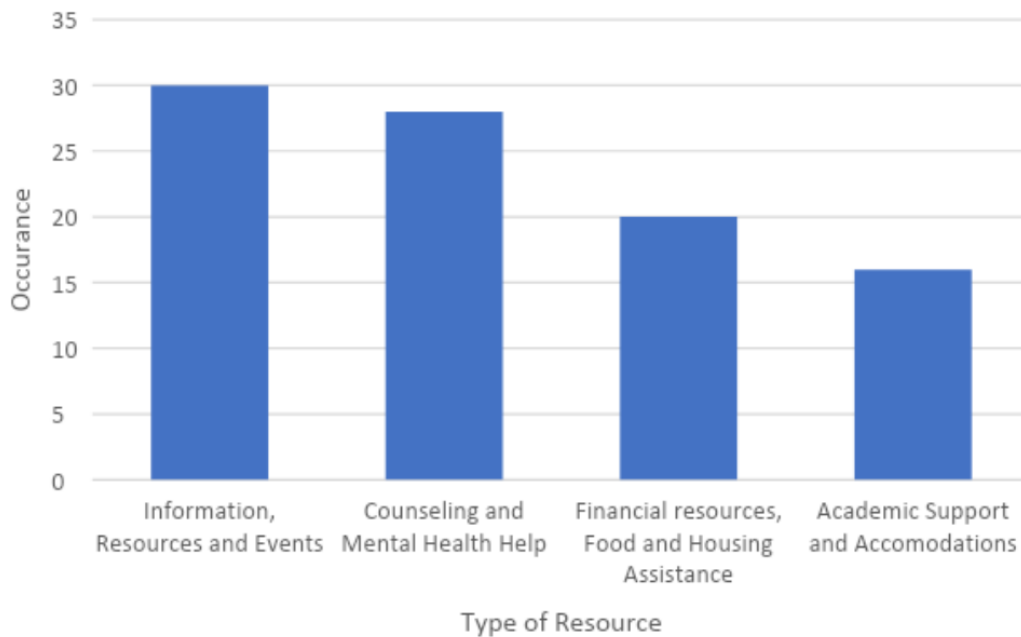


Figure 22: Needs identified by students who applied for UC Davis Emergency Mental Health Grant

Table 3: MHI Workshops and Training Sessions

Program	Date	Student Attendees
<p>Impact with Art (Movies for Mental Health): This was a 2-hour virtual workshop that used the power of film to unite folks in the community, create connections, and initiate conversations. This interactive, online experience featured an anonymous, chat-based discussion on mental health, a live screening of three award-winning short films and a UC Davis student, staff and community panel sharing of lived-experiences and mental health resources.</p>	April 14, 2021	54
<p>Late Night Movie Event: This initiative hosted at the UC Davis Health Stadium was a partnership between Student Housing and Dining Services and Student Health and Counseling Services. It provided a safe on-campus space for students to connect with each other and engage in various activities. It also helped students impacted by social distancing manage their experience in virtual academic experience. Both CDC and the state of CA guidelines were followed, including: (1) mask requirement, (2) 6ft. social distancing, (3) provided hand sanitizer, (4) an outdoor venue.</p>	May 14, 2021	188
<p>Music Therapy with Joe Martinez: This virtual program focused on how music can be a way to start a dialogue about lives for healing and developing a sense of belonging within communities. It was a space for learning about how music can be connected to culture and identities. It also highlighted music therapy as a component of health management.</p>	May 24, 2021	33
<p>Question, Persuade, Refer: An evidence-based, national suicide prevention training program virtually offered to UC Davis student groups. Its goal was to increase participation and train students on suicide prevention.</p>	June 2021	236

Mini-Grants - Spring 2021

Mini-Grants were funds granted under MHI to facilitate COVID-19 mitigation measures for student communities most impacted by COVID-19, including those of Latinx, African American, and Native American/Pacific Islander descent. These grants aided campus departments in supporting healing spaces, mental health seminars, workshops, and related efforts to foster community solidarity and support students' mental health. A total of six student groups responded to the call for funding for mini-grants; the MHI team selected five of the six applicants. The total disbursed was \$5,600.

Table 4: Emergency Mental Health grants awarded

Campus Department / Unit:	Amount awarded
<p>AB540 and Undocumented Student Center <i>The "Together We Rise Series" created a space where undocumented students could talk about stressors and joy while quarantining. Coordinated painting groups, provided art supplies, and care packages during midterms and finals. Invited speakers to lead workshops for undocumented students around identity.</i></p>	\$1,800
<p>Chicano and Chicana Studies <i>The grant was used for a decolonial healing course series conducted by the department. It featured workshops where students learned the basics of how to plant food and medicinal herbs from the comforts of their homes. A significant component of the grant was also used to aid the department's food justice program, which assisted about 30 students.</i></p>	\$600
<p>Cross Cultural Center <i>This fund was used to get supplies like snacks, masks, and hand sanitizers for the center. A portion was also used to send these packages through mail so that location was not an issue for those who needed them.</i></p>	\$1,000
<p>Native American Studies <i>Supported the department's 9th Annual Symposium. This virtual event fostered healing in light of the tolls that COVID-19 has had on graduate students and especially on the Native and Indigenous communities. The event included speakers to offer inspiration, guidance, mentorship, and host an open mic to share art, poetry, song, dance, and creative projects that facilitated healing and community connections. Shipped self-care kits to registered graduate student participants.</i></p>	\$1,200
<p>Student Recruitment & Retention Center- Southeast Asians Furthering Education <i>Served the Southeast Asian Communities at UC Davis and the greater Davis/Sacramento Area in understanding that all aspects of life can affect mental health, especially if folks do not have funds to pay for therapy, health care, rent, pay tuition, buy food, pay for their mental health care. This center sent students funds to alleviate some of the stress of adapting to the current COVID-19 landscape.</i></p>	\$1,000

5) COVID Diaries

March 2022 – July 2022

COVID Diaries (CD) is a community-based participatory research project between the UCD-based non-profit Sacramento Youth Area Speaks (SAYS) and the UC Davis Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion's Institute of Diversity, Equity and Advancement (IDEA). This initiative was created amidst a new Covid surge, vaccine hesitancy, and mis- and disinformation regarding vaccines in black/African American and Latino communities in greater Yolo and Sacramento counties. At the core of the project was the following question: how can youth of color become influencers of sound health decisions rather than targets of misinformation and disinformation about COVID-19? The PI's, professors Rachel Jean-Baptiste and Natalia Deeb-Sossa, completed IRB training and gained IRB approval to conduct this research project.

The goal of this project is to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 among marginalized communities in urban and rural areas--particularly Black, Latinx, and low-income communities faced with health disparities--by encouraging youth of color enrolled in grades 6-12 in Sacramento County to become health advocates in their own communities. The program will culminate in final products (an anthology of poems, poetic health service announcement videos, spoken word performances) created by the students to share with other youth through virtual platforms.

The goal of CD is to empower students to feel like they have a role in their own health decisions. One of the most effective ways to help youth feel informed to make critical health decisions for themselves is if they are given platforms to express health experiences and tools to critically assess information. SAYS staffers created a customized curriculum that included content on COVID-19 mitigation. Adult poet mentors employed by SAYS, who come from the same communities as the students and are embedded in schools, taught the curriculum. Students used platforms such as photo voice and spoken word to create narratives of their COVID-19 mitigation experiences and strategies. SAYS and the DEI team developed pre and post COVID Diaries curriculum surveys and conducted focus groups to ascertain how the program helped students understand and manage certain pandemic-related apprehensions. SAYS delivered the pre-curriculum survey in March 2022 prior to the official commencement of the COVID Diaries curriculum. Ninety-five students responded. Production of the survey's final analysis is expected in August 2022.

The next page features some of its major statistical highlights. The students who participated in this project are 80% Black/African/African American and Hispanic, reflecting how this project reached demographic groups most impacted by the health, social, and economic impacts of the pandemic (see figure 11). According to the pre-curriculum survey, close to 40% of students did not take COVID-19 seriously and the majority of them did not believe that vaccines were an effective measure against COVID-19 (see figures 12 and 13). The team will assess how/if opinions about the seriousness of COVID-19 and attitudes towards vaccines shifted. If successful, the team plans on disseminating outcomes, publishing the findings, and potentially scale up access to the curriculum nationally.

Preliminary Data as of June 14, 2022

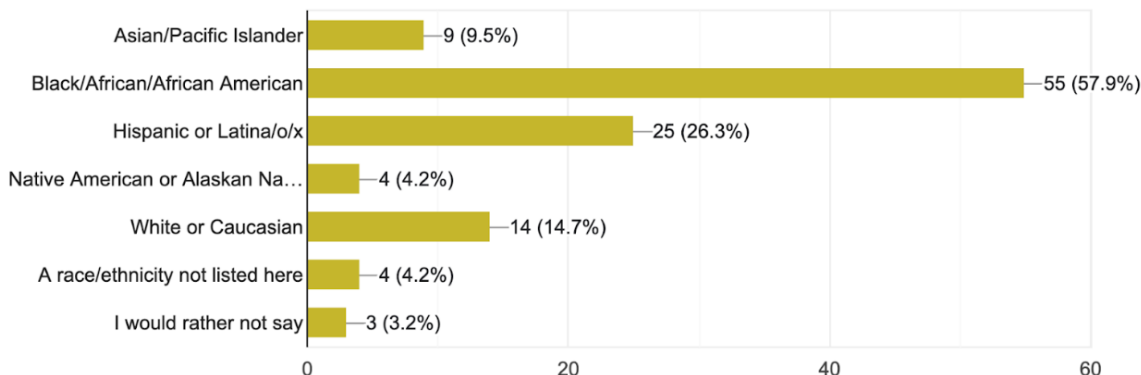


Figure 17: Distribution of 95 responses to the question: "Which of the following best describes you?" (pre-curriculum survey)

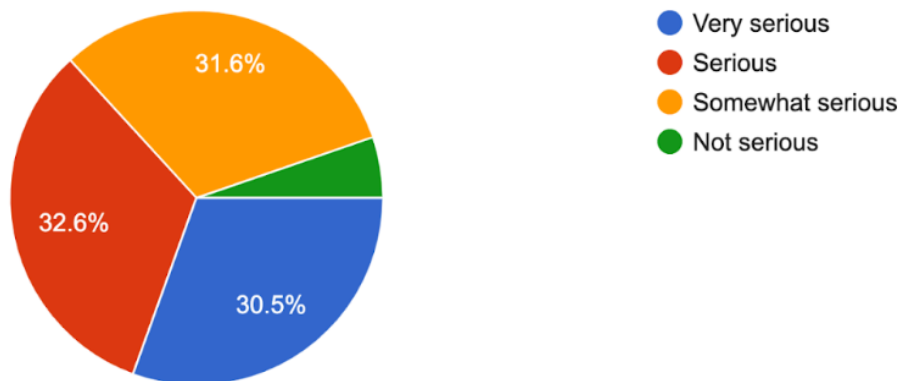


Figure 18: Distribution of 95 responses to the question: "How serious of a public health issue do you consider the COVID-19 pandemic?" (pre-curriculum survey)

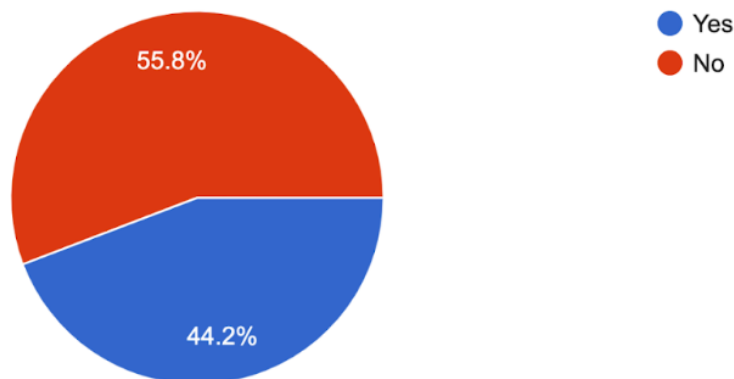


Figure 19: Distribution of 95 responses to the question: "Do you believe that vaccination helps prevent COVID-19 infection or reduces the severity of COVID-19 illness?" (pre-curriculum survey)