

Trends in COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution in Massachusetts Jails



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BACKGROUND

- The approval and distribution of COVID-19 vaccines has been a crucial development in the fight against COVID-19
- The goal of this analysis is to:
 - Graph the total COVID-19 and flu vaccines ordered per month and standardize by average daily population of the jail.
 - Graph the number and brand of COVID-19 vaccines ordered by all jails and compare to COVID19 vaccine distribution rates in MA
 - Graph the number of COVID-19 vaccines ordered by all MA jails were calculated for Q1-Q4 of 2021 and compare to the number of vaccines administered in MA jails

METHOD

- The data we analyzed was access through collaboration with the Mass DPH and the Mass. Sherrifs Association
- Jails order vaccines from the Mass DPH. We received quarterly reports on vaccine orders by jails from the DPH
- The Average Daily Population (ADP) of the jail over a multi-month period was calculated by taking a weighted average of monthly ADPs.
- Vaccine distribution in jails is tracked by ACLU Reporter.

Important lessons can be learned from the experience of COVID-19 operationalization in Massachusetts jails.

Jails varied widely in the number of COVID-19 and flu vaccines they ordered per incarcerated individual.

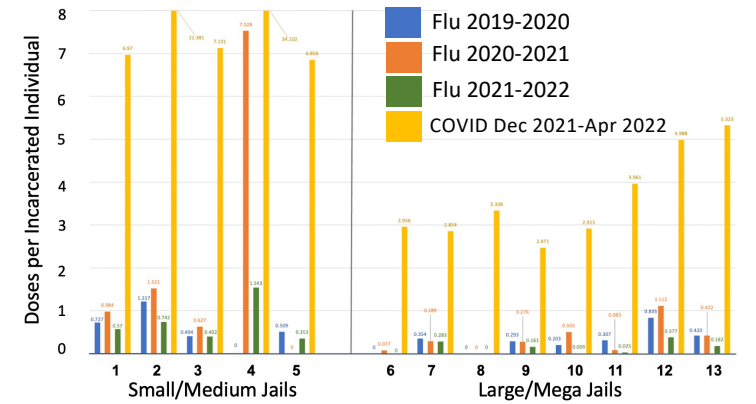
Responses to the pandemic were reactionary during the first month of the pandemic and were un-sustained thereafter. Vaccine brands offered to incarcerated patients did not reflect brands popular among non-incarcerated recipients.

Jails continued to order COVID-19 vaccines, despite consistently having a surplus.

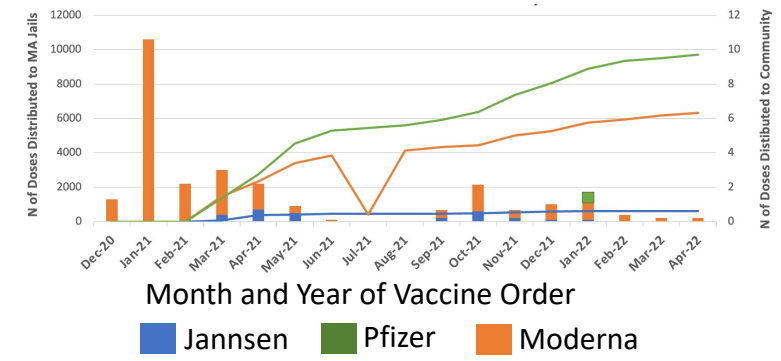


We would like to thank the Massachusetts Dept. of Public Health for their collaboration on this study.

(1) COVID-19 and Flu Vaccines Ordered, Standardized by Average Daily Population



(2) COVID-19 Vaccines Ordered Per Month, By Brand



(3) COVID-19 Vaccines Ordered and Administered, 2021

