



ALAMEDA COUNTY COVID-19 HEALTH EMERGENCY PRESS RELEASE

COUNTY OF ALAMEDA ★ CALIFORNIA

Office of Emergency Services
4985 Broder Blvd, Dublin, CA 94568

Alameda County Health Care Services Agency

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Neetu Balram
Public Information Manager
Alameda County Public Health Department
eoc-pio@acgov.org

Statement from the Alameda County Health Care Services Agency: Alameda County Pauses Further Openings of Activities

ALAMEDA COUNTY, CA – Given recent increases in the COVID-19 case rate in Alameda County, and the rise in cases across the Bay Area and the state, we have temporarily paused plans to open additional activities. Alameda County is currently in the Orange Tier per the State’s [Blueprint for a Safer Economy](#), but we anticipate moving into a more restrictive tier soon. For this reason, we will not open additional activities and will likely need to close higher risk activities shortly. Earlier action will help us flatten the curve.

Throughout the pandemic Alameda County has taken a cautious approach, moving more slowly than other counties across the State. This measured pace and the continued efforts of residents and businesses permitted us to move quickly through the State’s framework and avoid reclosing activities. However, in recent weeks we have seen day-over-day increases in the number of new cases reported, along with steady increases in COVID-19 hospitalizations. The County’s daily new COVID-19 cases per 100,000 people as calculated by the State has risen from a low of 3.4 to 4.9. We expect to move back into the Red Tier soon and, if current trends continue, Alameda County will move all the way back into the Purple Tier.

We are also concerned by the alarming increase in cases we see in states across the country at a time when families may want to travel and gather. The next several weeks could place us at high risk for even more COVID-19 transmission with the upcoming holidays and more people gathering indoors as the weather changes. In addition, flu season is imminent and flu cases will be a greater burden on our healthcare system this year given the similarities in symptoms between flu and COVID-19.

“We must exercise caution and prepare to move quickly to protect our residents and hospitals from rising cases of COVID-19,” said Dr. Nicholas Moss, Alameda County Health Officer. “We continue to closely monitor the situation. If necessary, we will restrict activities that are higher risk for spreading COVID, including those in which people gather indoors without masks.”

We remain grateful for the sacrifices made by residents and local businesses since the pandemic began, but now is not the time to let down our guard. To protect our families, friends and communities, especially those loved ones who may be at high risk for severe illness and death, please wear face coverings whenever you leave home and stay at least six feet away from people you don’t live with. Stay home when ill and wash your hands frequently. Get your flu shot and follow [Bay Area health officials’ guidance on holiday gathering and travel](#).

MEDIA
EOC-PIO@acgov.org

PUBLIC
Covid19compliance@acgov.org

PHONE
925.803.7890

