

CORONAVIRUS UPDATES

Get the latest news from our Public Health Department

Week of May 18, 2020

Alameda County Health Care Services Agency Update

Please share with your networks

Two new Health Officer Orders were issued this week, and we continued our updates with the Alameda County Board of Supervisors, elected officials, health care providers, and faith based organizations.

First, we modified the [Shelter in Place Order](#) to allow retail with curbside and storefront pickups, manufacturing and warehousing to resume.

- This action brings us to the State's Early Stage 2 and we will closely monitor for impacts on our COVID-19 indicators over the few next weeks.
- The order is in effect until replaced, amended, or rescinded.
- A new page was added to our website called [COVID Recovery](#) to provide guidance and resources for businesses and organizations planning to reopen.

The second order permits [highly regulated car gatherings](#).

- We've received a lot of interest in this type of gathering for graduations and religious services.
- We are continuing to work with faith based leaders to plan for safe, in-person gatherings.

Our Public Health Department released a COVID-19 [equity brief](#) and [infographic](#) this week. The brief includes disparities data and offers cross-sector strategies to promote the health, social, economic, and environmental conditions necessary to support pandemic resilience and recovery.

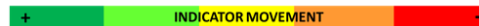
The Agency provides COVID-19 regular updates to the Alameda County Board of Supervisors and you will find a link to this week's presentation [here](#).

[Public Health Department Website](#)

[Alameda County Dashboard](#)

Alameda County Progress

Indicator Status	Cases & Hospitalizations Flat or Decreasing	Sufficient Hospital & Surge Capacity	Sufficient Testing Capacity	Sufficient Disease Containment	Sufficient PPE
Related Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shelter in Place Clinical guidance Public guidance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health care systems planning COVID-19 patients <4% of hospital beds and <12% of ICU beds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goal 3100 tests/day As of 5/15 @ one-third of goal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact tracing expansion Isolation & Quarantine support Encampment response Surveillance LTCF Task Force Equity lens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Procurement and fulfillment through EOC Still significant PPE requests from healthcare partners



Alameda County is transitioning into Early Stage 2 on California State's [Roadmap to Resilience](#). It's important to remember that the virus is still highly contagious and spreads easily. Additional interactions are expected to cause increases in case numbers and hospitalizations. We are monitoring indicators closely to determine when it might be safe to move into Later Stage 2.

The best way to protect yourself and others is to [stay home](#). When out in the community, please wear [face coverings](#), stay [six or more feet](#) away from each other, and practice good [hand hygiene](#) with frequent use of alcohol-based hand sanitizer or hand washing.

Important Reminders for Eid and Memorial Day

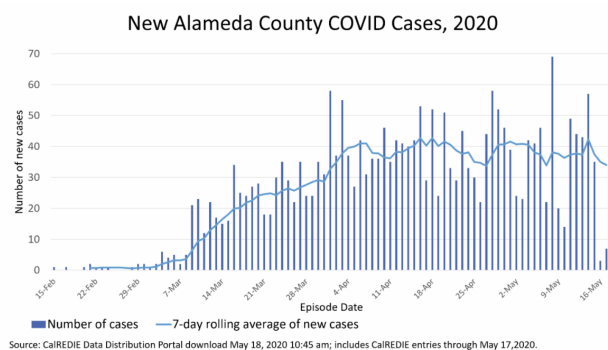
The month-long observance of Ramadan ends with Eid celebrations this weekend, followed by Memorial Day observances. We recognize and appreciate the personal sacrifices our communities are making to protect health. You've helped us slow the pandemic but the virus is still circulating.

Please note that gatherings of all sizes remain prohibited. Increased social interactions raise the risk of exposure and outbreaks. Please stay home as much as you can, stay six feet away from others, wash your hands frequently, and wear a face covering when outside your home. We wish you an Eid Mubarak and a meaningful day of remembrance on Memorial Day.

Trends, Physical Distancing and Sheltering

While the rates of new cases, hospitalizations and deaths remained mostly flat over the past month, we observed an increase in the last week and are monitoring closely.

- As of May 20, there were [2,560 reported cases](#) of COVID-19 and 88 deaths. This represents 5.2 deaths per 100,000 people, compared to 8.9 deaths per 100,000 people in California State overall.

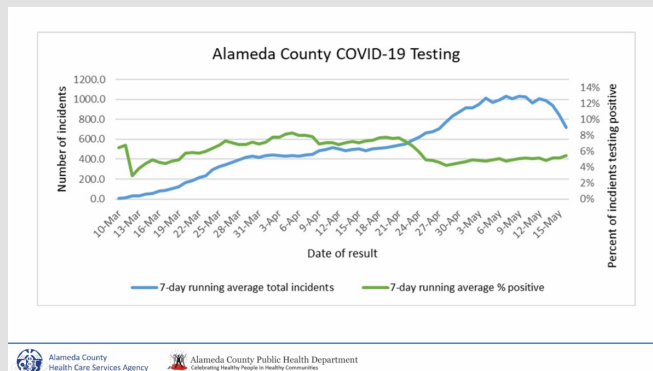


- As of May 19, there were **83 hospitalized patients** (the highest was 93 on April 10), including 40 ICU patients (the highest was 46 in early April) confirmed COVID positive. Please note that we are now only reporting confirmed cases and not suspected cases to align with the Bay Area Indicators.

Non-urgent medical services are encouraged to resume their full scope of practice when safe and possible for the facility to do so.

- California is observing a **40 percent drop in childhood immunizations** during the pandemic. It is important to **continue routine immunizations** for children and adults to prevent illnesses and outbreaks of other preventable diseases.
- Community members should be able to schedule medical care that may have been postponed over the past few months.

Testing, Facility Survey, Partnerships, and Locations



Our goal is to conduct 3,100 tests per day and we are a third of the way, conducting an average of 1000 to 1100 COVID-19 tests per day.

If your facility conducts or wants to conduct COVID-19 diagnostic testing in Alameda County and has not yet completed the testing survey, please complete [the 5-10 minute testing survey](#) by Friday, May 22 so that we can support the

scaling up of testing. Updated [testing guidance](#) was released last week encouraging testing of all people with symptoms and essential workers regardless of symptoms, as testing resources allow.

New testing partnerships are being developed to improve access to COVID-19 testing for disproportionately impacted neighborhoods along the 880 corridor and communities of color, especially Latinx and African American communities.

Testing locations can be found on the [COVID-19 testing webpage](#) in eight languages and searchable in this [interactive map of COVID-19 services](#) (click to filter for COVID-19 testing). The testing programs at Roots Community Health Center and Allen Temple in East Oakland, REACH Youth Center in Ashland/Cherryland and Alameda County offices in Hayward will test any community member with symptoms and all essential workers regardless of symptoms without cost and regardless of insurance status.

Case and Contact Investigation, Isolation and Quarantine, Resources

We are making good progress toward reaching at least 90 percent of cases and contacts, and ensuring safe isolation or quarantine for at least 90 percent of people reached. Alameda County now has a team of more than 75 contact tracers. We expect to share details about our expansion plans in the coming weeks.

Isolation housing for people experiencing homelessness or crowded living conditions:

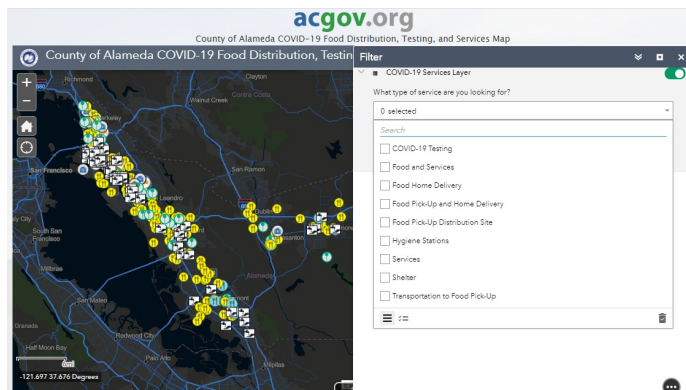
- [Project Roomkey](#) isolation housing has expanded eligibility to include people who are not homeless who have tested positive for COVID-19 and live in a congregate living facility or a room with 3 to 4 or more people over age 12.
- There are now four hotels open in Oakland and Alameda through Project Roomkey with additional hotel sites in development.
- Approved [referral agencies](#) should follow the specific instructions and link provided to your organization's contact person. If your agency is not on the list, please email covidhousing@acgov.org or call 510-891-8950.
- There are also 128 beds available in trailers through the [Operation HomeBase](#) program for people in Oakland experiencing homelessness, who don't have COVID-

19 and are at risk for COVID-19 complications.

Special task forces and partnerships have focused on rapid responses to cases and outbreaks at long-term care and skilled nursing facilities, Santa Rita Jail, shelters and encampments. Providers are reminded to [report COVID-19 cases](#) in these high-risk settings within an hour of receiving the positive result.

Community Resources

- Locations for food distribution, testing, and services are available on the [Alameda County interactive map](#) at right.
- Isolation and quarantine hotel rooms for people experiencing homelessness are available to specified referral agencies and contacts through [Project Roomkey](#).
- Unemployment benefits in California can be accessed through the [state website](#).
- [Undocumented immigrants](#) can apply for \$500 to 1,000 one-time relief payments. Alameda County residents can call Catholic Charities at 415-324-1011.

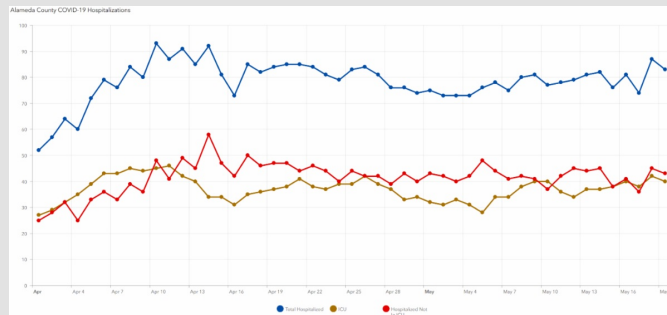


Our [Public Health](#) website offers many additional resources including [mental health and social benefits](#) information; services and support for [essential workers](#); guidance for [child care, schools, and colleges](#); links to [community service organizations](#); and information for [skilled nursing and residential care facilities](#).

Hospital Capacity and Surge Planning

As of May 19, our hospital capacity indicators show:

- 3.6 percent of the patients in hospital beds across Alameda County were confirmed COVID-19 positive, which is within our goal of 50 percent or less.
- 12 percent of the patients in ICU beds were confirmed COVID-19 positive.
- Most hospitals report 4 to 14 days of most types of personal protective equipment (PPE) on hand, and still requesting assistance from the county.



There are currently 2,317 total hospital beds available in Alameda County. Updated modeling using the [Local Epidemic Modeling for Management & Action](#) (LEMMA) tool predicts that we have capacity for a 20 percent increase in transmission rates, while a 50 percent increase in transmission rates would lead to a median peak of 4500 hospitalized cases in September 2020 and overwhelm our hospital system. As we relax restrictions, it is more important than ever that we limit transmission rates by practicing good hand hygiene, physical distancing and wearing face coverings when out in the community.

California State has received a limited supply of [Remdesivir](#), the only antiviral shown to be effective against COVID-19 in a clinical trial so far. Distribution within Alameda County will be based on the hospital census of eligible patients at each facility.

A [health alert](#) was released for reporting [Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children \(MIS-C\)](#) associated with COVID-19 to the Public Health Department at (510) 267-3250.

If your facility is in need of COVID-related supplies or staffing, please go to the [Emergency Medical Services website](#) to [request PPE](#), [request staffing](#), and [request testing supplies](#).

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[Weekly Update PDF Version](#)



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