

CORONAVIRUS UPDATES

Get the latest news from our Public Health Department

Week of June 8, 2020

Alameda County Health Care Services Agency Update

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Balancing risk, safety, and the socioeconomic needs of our communities

Last week we introduced [Alameda County's Reopening Plan](#) which lays out sequencing for various sectors and helps our community plan ahead. For more details about the guidance and activities that became effective this week, please see the Reopening Plan article that follows below.

Today, we announced additional sectors and activities that are planned for next Friday, June 19. The expanded activities will include all retail, outdoor dining, outdoor fitness, religious services and outdoor museums. You will find today's announcement under [Press Releases](#) on our Public Health website.

The concept is to allow more activities at two to four week intervals while we monitor what the data tells us about the safety of, or risk to, the public's health along with the effect of loosened restrictions in neighboring counties. Our goal is to balance risk, safety, and the socioeconomic needs of our communities and we look forward to opening more activities sooner rather than later.

In additional news this week:

- A newly leased [Project Roomkey](#) hotel is now operating in Newark, allowing us to serve more than 450 households across the county,
- We continue to expand new [testing sites](#), and,
- Our Health Equity Team is working on formalizing ongoing engagement with communities hardest hit by the pandemic.

Each week we bring you a digest of updates from presentations to the [Board of Supervisors](#), daily and weekly calls with our stakeholders, and new information about services. We hope you find this summary useful and we appreciate your readership.

[Public Health Department Website](#)

[Alameda County Dashboard](#)

Reopening Plan

As we await the addition of newly announced openings for next Friday, here's what became effective this week effective Monday, June 8 as noted in the [Reopening Plan](#):

- [Face coverings](#) which must be worn at all times when around people outside one's household. Please carry a face covering when biking or running, and plan to put it on as you get within 30 feet to allow time to have in place as you pass others.
- [Expanded childcare and camps](#) to include all children.

- [Limited personal services](#), including appliance repair, pet grooming, car washes.
- [Social bubbles](#) with stable groups of 12 or fewer for at least three weeks, wearing face coverings, meeting outdoors, and maintaining distance when possible.

All businesses and organizations are reminded to follow [updated safety protocols](#) to reduce workplace infections:

- Ensure physical distancing of six feet in all areas,
- Provide and wear [face coverings](#) and consider eye protection,
- Facilitate good ventilation,
- Provide temperature or symptom screenings at the beginning of each shift,
- Support employees to stay home when ill,
- Support employees to [get tested](#),
- Implement regular cleaning and disinfecting protocols, and,
- Facilitate frequent hand washing and/or sanitizing.

Next week's plan to allow additional activities relies heavily on our indicators which move in the right direction with the consistent use of face coverings, maintaining physical distancing, and practicing good hand hygiene. These measures ensure that we protect ourselves and our families as well as frontline workers in the businesses we will visit.

Progress on COVID-19 Indicators

While Alameda County continues to have the highest number of cases in the Bay Area, our indicators shows stability and positive direction. The rate of new cases declined in the past week after a peak at the end of May.

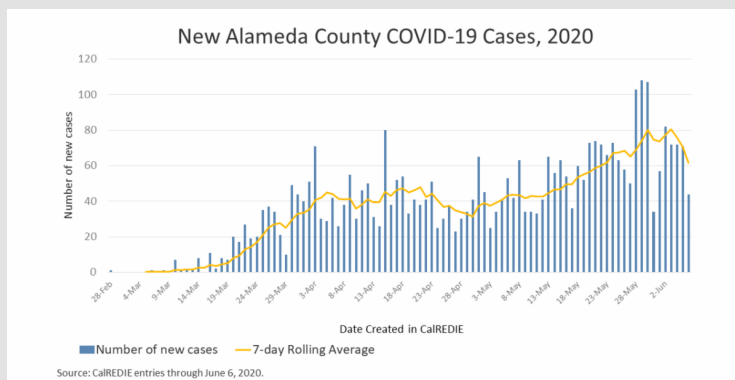
	Cases & Hospitalizations Flat or Decreasing	Sufficient Hospital & Surge Capacity	Sufficient Testing Capacity	Sufficient Disease Containment	Sufficient PPE
Indicator Status	■ ■ ■	■ ■ ■ ■ ■	■ ■ ■ ■	■ ■ ■ ■	■ ■ ■ ■
Related Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shelter in Place • Physical Distancing • Face Coverings • Clinical guidance • Public guidance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health care systems planning • LTCF Partnership • COVID-19 patients 4% of hospital beds and 9% of ICU beds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal 3100 tests/day • As of 6/3 ~1500/day 	<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 • Continued PPE requests from healthcare partners

Indicator Movement
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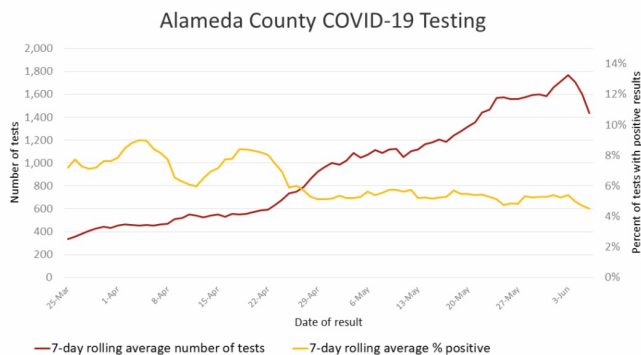
Trends in Cases and Hospitalizations

Cases and hospitalization rates have started to decrease after increases last month including a peak of 105 confirmed hospitalized cases on May 30. Our goal is for cases to be flat or decreasing.

- As of June 10, there were [4,033 reported cases](#) of COVID-19 and 105 deaths. These cases represent 6.2 deaths per 100,000 people, compared to 12.1 deaths per 100,000 people in California State overall.
- As of June 9, there were [94 hospitalized patients](#) (the highest was 105 on May 30) including 32 ICU patients (the highest was 46 on April 11) with confirmed COVID-



We're keeping a close eye on new cases and hospitalizations, as updated modeling predicts that a 20% increase in transmission rate would mean a hospital bed surge later this month. Increases are possible given the May and June reopenings along with protests. Our health care system would be overwhelmed by August if there were a 50% increase in transmission rates in June.



Testing

We are conducting over 1,500 COVID-19 tests per day with progress to our goal of conducting 3,100 tests per day. This indicator was upgraded from two to three.

COVID-19 testing positivity rates are 10% at West Oakland testing sites and

over 20% at East Oakland sites, which is much higher than the overall 4% positivity rate average for the county. Race and ethnicity data are missing on half of the reported cases and we remind our providers to **please submit race/ethnicity demographic data and contact information with tests**. This data helps us identify and address disparities along with cases that need to be contacted for follow-up.

Search the [COVID-19 testing webpage](#) and list of [testing locations](#) that offer free tests for any community member and all essential workers regardless of symptoms, insurance, or immigration status. La Clínica has started free community testing in the Fruitvale community of East Oakland, and community members can call 510-535-3370 to make an appointment.

[Alameda County COVID-19 testing guidance](#) encourages testing all people with symptoms and all essential workers, especially those working in long-term care facilities, regardless of symptoms. We are also encouraging anyone who protested to get tested within a few days of attending a protest.

If your facility needs COVID-related supplies, please complete these forms to [request PPE](#) and [request testing supplies](#).

Case and Contact Investigation, Isolation and Quarantine

The Public Health Department is piloting the new California State contact tracing data system for isolation and quarantine support using an equity lens. An advisory committee of community organizations is also being formed.

Providers, should distribute [isolation instructions](#) (available in seven languages) for all people testing for COVID-19, to teach the importance of isolation for community safety. All people who develop symptoms of COVID-19 should isolate while awaiting test results, and should remain in isolation if the test is positive:

- Isolation means the person with COVID-19 must stay home, away from others for a minimum of 10 days from symptom onset or the date of first test if no symptoms.
 - People with COVID-19 symptoms being tested should be isolated immediately – do not wait for results
- Contacts are required to quarantine, meaning they must stay home and monitor themselves for symptoms for 14 days after their last exposure.
- When someone under quarantine re-exposes themselves, they must start their quarantine again for 14 days from the last exposure.
- If a contact becomes ill with COVID-19 they must isolate for a minimum of 10 days from onset.

ACPHD is not providing return to work documentation for cases or contacts, unless the employee has been excluded by ACPHD based on their designation as a worker in a high risk occupation or setting:

- To facilitate a faster return to work, employers should not require employees who have been isolated/quarantined under the Isolation/Quarantine Order to provide test results or a doctor's note to return to work. ACPHD does not recommend testing to clear people from isolation or quarantine.

Providers are encouraged to refer people living in crowded conditions or experiencing homelessness and need isolation housing to [Project Roomkey](#) hotels.

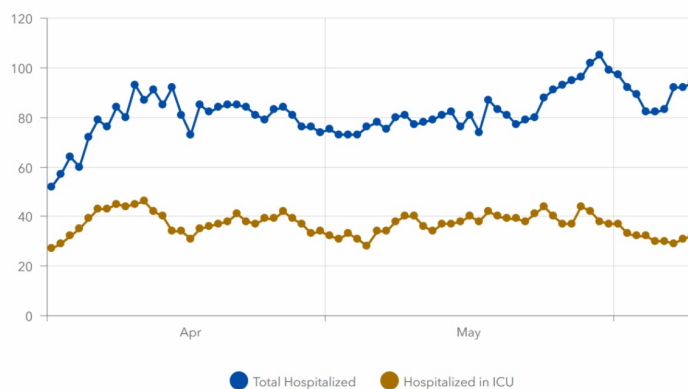
The CDC has a [handout in English](#) and the State's [California Connected](#) fact sheets explain contact tracing to community members in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

Hospital Capacity and Surge Planning

As of June 8, our hospital capacity indicators are:

- 4% of the patients in hospital beds across Alameda County were confirmed COVID-19 positive, which is within our goal of 50% or less.
- 9% of patients in ICU beds were confirmed COVID-19 positive.
- Most hospitals are reporting a 30-day supplies of most types of personal protective equipment (PPE) but still requesting assistance for PPE procurement from the county.

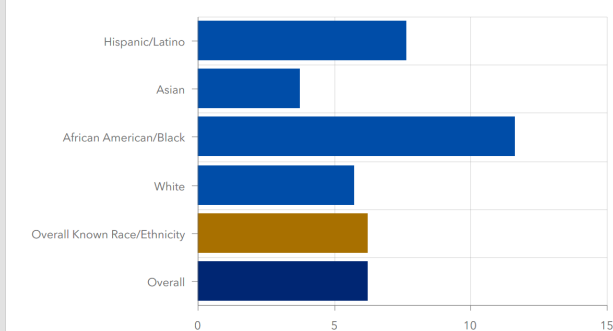
Alameda County Total COVID-19 Hospitalizations



The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) has developed a [PPE Tracker mobile app](#) to help facilities track their PPE inventory.

The blue line indicates the total number of people hospitalized, and the brown line indicates people in the ICU.

Alameda County Total Death Rate per 100,000 by Race/Ethnicity



The proper comparison for each race/ethnicity is to Overall Known Race/Ethnicity. Each of the other race/ethnic groups have counts less than ten and are suppressed.

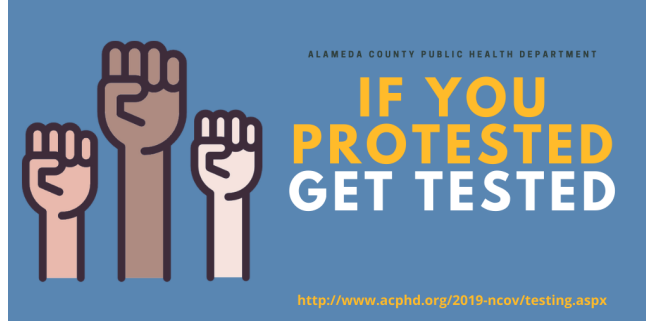
Disparities and Equity

Updated race and ethnicity data as of June 10 show persistent disparities, with Latinx people showing six times the rate of COVID-19 diagnoses compared to Whites. African American people have twice the death rate of Whites. This data highlights the urgent need to address racial inequities in workplace safety, access to prevention and precautions, and rapid access to testing and culturally responsive isolation and quarantine.

Frustration, grief, and hope

As protests of police brutality and rallies for racial justice have

continued, we support people's need to express frustration, grief and hope. We also recognize the real risk of COVID-19 transmission in large gatherings involving singing and chanting. We encourage people to understand the risks, choose wisely and protest as safely as possible by:



- Organizing and protesting in virtual spaces
- Choosing [car caravans](#) over in-person crowds
- Wearing [face coverings](#)
- Wearing eye protection
- Wearing glasses instead of contact lenses
- Keeping six or more feet of distance when possible, and
- [Getting tested](#) if you develop COVID-19 symptoms, which usually take 7-10 days after exposure to develop.

Please help us spread the message that "if you've protested, get tested" at any of our free [community sites](#).

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[Weekly Update PDF Version](#)



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