

# CORONAVIRUS UPDATES

Get the latest news from our Public Health Department

Week of June 29, 2020

## Alameda County Health Care Services Agency Update

*Please share with your networks*

On Monday, June 29, Alameda County [temporarily paused its reopening plans](#) due to increases in COVID-19 case and hospitalization rates in our county and region. We are concerned by the increase in local cases, disproportionate impact on communities of color, local impact of the outbreak at San Quentin State Prison, and the alarming disease trends we see in counties that have opened at a faster rate.

On Wednesday, July 1, the Governor announced the State would shut down indoor operations for several sectors in counties on the State's COVID-19 watch list. This week and next will be critical for assessing the impact of activities that were authorized to resume in Alameda County on June 19. Ongoing trends in the wrong direction for cases and hospitalizations could mean scaling back reopened activities. We need to flatten the curve again: it is critically important that everyone avoid gatherings, wear face coverings, and maintain at least six feet distance in public.

This week, we also announced that Dr. Erica Pan, Health Officer, is heading to Sacramento following her [appointment by Governor Gavin Newsom](#) as State Epidemiologist and Deputy Director overseeing the Center for Infectious Diseases at the California Department of Public Health. We are proud that the Governor chose one of Alameda County's exceptional public health leaders to serve at the State level, and are pleased to announce that Dr. Nicholas Moss, MD, MPH, will serve as the County's Interim Health Officer. Transition planning has been underway for some time and we are well prepared to continue emergency and non-emergency operations.

We continue to scale up the infrastructure necessary to keep pace with the pandemic including opportunities for community partners and providers to join in or expand their level of response to meet critical access needs. Last week we announced a new [\\$20M Request For Quotation \(RFQ\)](#) for testing services to expand our capacity at safety net clinics and mobile sites. We look forward to a robust response and will share the names of those who step forward to meet community needs. This week, [Native American Health Center and La Clinica de La Raza began free testing in the Fruitvale.](#)

Each week we bring you a digest of updates from [presentations to the Board of Supervisors](#), weekly calls with our stakeholders, and new information about services.

## Mask On Alameda County!

The 4th of July is approaching and you're not sure what's allowed? Here's a quick refresher:

- Limit outdoor picnics and BBQs to household members and social bubbles only.
- Keep picnics and BBQs at home or close to home.
- Always follow guidance, wear Face coverings, and stay six feet away from others.

**Mask On Alameda County!** Show us your favorite mask @Dare2bWell.

These simple actions help reduce the spread of COVID-19:

- wearing face coverings
- Staying 6 feet away from others
- Frequent hand washing, and
- Getting tested if you have symptoms or work outside of your home.



With COVID-19 spreading rapidly in many Bay Area neighborhoods, health officials across the region are urging residents to protect themselves and the community by celebrating from home this holiday weekend. Each of us plays a critical role in stopping COVID-19. Please do your part to prevent the spread of disease.

## Progress on COVID-19 Indicators

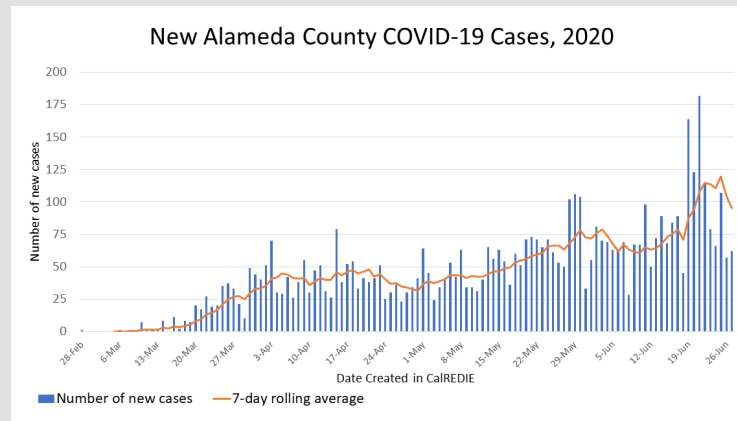
Due to the increased rates of new cases and hospitalizations, we have downgraded our Case and Hospitalization and Sufficient Disease Containment indicators. The other three indicators measuring Hospital bed capacity, testing capacity, and availability of PPE have remained stable over the past week.

	Cases & Hospitalizations Flat or Decreasing	Sufficient Hospital & Surge Capacity	Sufficient Testing Capacity	Sufficient Disease Containment	Sufficient PPE
Indicator Status	■ ■	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■	■ ■	■ ■ ■
Trends & Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6,156 cases</li> <li>Cases rising in last 7 days</li> <li>123 cases hospitalized</li> <li>19.5% increase in hospitalizations in 3-day period</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>43% inpatient hospital beds available</li> <li>35% ICU beds available</li> <li>100% surge beds available</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Positivity rate: &lt;4% (goal &lt;8%)</li> <li>Over 2,800 tests/day (goal 3,100)</li> <li>1.2 tests/1,000 over 7 days (goal 1.5/1000)</li> <li>75% of residents w/in 30min drive to site</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>90 case investigation &amp; contact tracing staff (goal 300)</li> <li>830 isolation/quarantine rooms operating (goal 1,203)</li> <li>Special settings teams: LTCF, Outbreaks, Encampments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>41 requests for PPE in last 14 days (goal 0)</li> <li>158 requests for PPE in last 30 days (goal 0)</li> </ul>

## Trends in Cases and Hospitalizations

Case and hospitalization rates have increased over the past week. Case investigations do not indicate that recent protest activities are a factor.

- As of June 29, there were 5,670 reported cases of COVID-19, representing a case rate of 71.1 per 100,000 people.
- As of June 30, there were 116 hospitalized patients including 43 ICU patients with confirmed COVID-19.
- While hospitalizations are increasing, COVID-19 patients remain approximately 5% of total inpatient beds and 100% of our surge beds are available.



The California COVID Assessment Tool (CaCAT) predictive modeling website is now public. CalCAT presents the following estimates from multiple sources in one location:

- Nowcasts:** estimate how fast COVID-19 is spreading in California and select counties.
- Forecasts:** project COVID-19 hospitalizations and deaths in the next 2 to 4 weeks.
- Scenarios:** provide long-term estimates of COVID-19 hospitalizations and deaths under different hypothetical scenarios, for example, fast-paced re-opening or slow-paced re-opening.

Please keep in mind that the accuracy of projections and estimates depends on the accuracy of assumptions and availability of new information as we learn more about COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2). The projections provide a range of possibilities that help us plan for the future, but they should not be considered exact predictions.

Testing capacity increased again over last week, with more than 2,800 COVID-19 tests per day. The 7-day rolling positivity rate is 4.2% overall on a goal of less than 8%.

We continue to expand testing sites in communities where we are observing higher rates

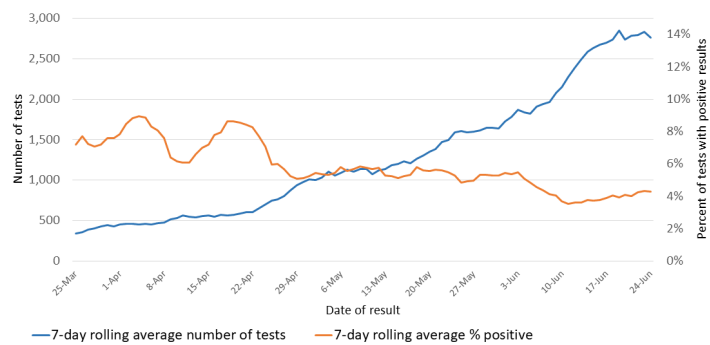
of disease and are pleased to announce the opening of [two new sites in the Fruitvale District this week](#):

- Native American Health Center is open Tuesday/Thursdays from 9 am to 7 pm and Saturdays 10 am to 4 pm. Appointments available [here](#).
- La Clínica de La Raza is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 12 pm, and 1 pm to 5 pm. This is a drive-through site and pedestrian-accessible appointments are accepted. Make an appointment by calling 510-535-3370.

The [COVID-19 Testing Vendor Pool RFQ](#) (Request for Qualification) released last week accepts responses on a continuous basis until December 31. The RFQ provides opportunity for clinics, hospitals, and organizations to meet the community's need for expanded COVID-19 testing. Current testing sites are searchable on the [interactive map of COVID-19 services](#) (click to filter for COVID-19 testing), and downloadable on the [COVID-19 testing webpage](#). 10 sites offer free tests for anyone, regardless of symptoms.

Another reminder to providers to please submit complete contact information, race/ethnicity data, and please distribute [isolation orders](#) for all people getting tested.

Alameda County COVID-19 Testing



## Case and Contact Investigation, Isolation and Quarantine

**COVID-19 UPDATE**

### What is contact tracing?

Testing and tracing help prevent the spread of infectious diseases like COVID-19

Testing and tracing are completely private! You will not be asked for your social security number or your immigration status.

**Stay Informed**

Please click to view, "How COVID-19 Can Spread in the Community."

Call 2-1-1 or text "COVID19" or "coronavirus" to 211211 to receive general information.

Check Public Health Department's website: [www.acphd.org](http://www.acphd.org)

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Alameda County Health Care Services Agency

Alameda County Public Health Department

Celebrating Healthy People in Healthy Communities

We are working hard to add more capacity and streamline case investigations and contract tracing processes (CI/CT). We currently have 90 staff with a goal of 300 and we continue to train around the clock. We are already assigning a substantial number of cases in CalCONNECT, the State's new platform, and aim to fully transition all investigations by the end of the month.

Incomplete address or phone information slows



down the process of contacting people who test positive. All testing and clinical providers should submit complete contact and race/ethnicity data for anyone getting tested.

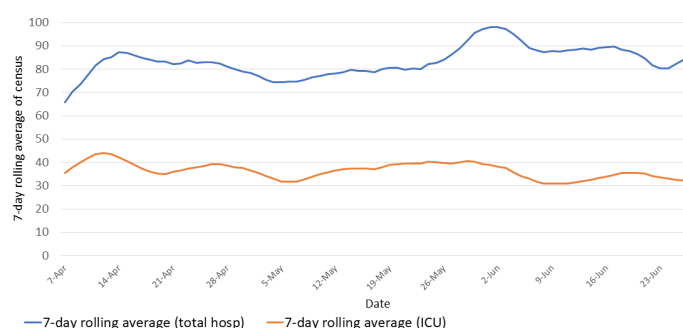
Community trust is a key component of CI/CT work. We ask you to please share with your communities and clients that they should answer the phone if the Health Department calls. We ask only about what we need to know to stop the spread of COVID-19 and we keep all information confidential. These calls are critical for the health of our residents and communities.

## Hospital Capacity and Surge Planning

As of June 30:

- 5% of the patients in hospital beds across Alameda County were confirmed COVID-19 positive which is within our goal of 50% of less.
- 11% of the patients in ICU beds were confirmed COVID-19 positive.
- Alameda County is providing mutual aid to Imperial and Marin Counties by hospitalizing patients that cannot currently be accommodated in their home jurisdiction due to lack of capacity.
- The County has received 41 requests for PPE in the last 14 days, with a goal of 0. 158 requests for PPE were received in the last 30 days, with a goal of 0. The percent of hospitals with greater than 14 day supply of PPE is 23.1% with a goal of more than 90%.

COVID-19 Patients Hospitalized in Alameda County, 7-day rolling average, 2020



## Health Disparities and Equity

We are committed to reducing the [disproportionate impact](#) of COVID-19 among Latinx and African American communities through the following strategies:

- **Data quality:** Closing the gaps on information submitted by providers to improve quality of race and ethnicity data allowing us to focus a more precise response.
- **Testing:** Making testing more available in the communities where health disparities exist.
- **Community-Based Education and Health Promotion:** Assuring that health messages are delivered by people from the communities we're trying to reach.
- **Isolation and Quarantine Support:** Providing services needed to ensure that people who test positive, are sick or exposed, have access to necessities including groceries, medications, and quarantine outside their normal place of residence if their current living situation is overcrowded.

To achieve health equity, we must tackle broader social inequalities including access to power, resources, and opportunities, all of which determine the distribution of health and disease within the population. Our response to the COVID-19 pandemic

aligns with our ongoing [strategies to address health equity](#) including:

- Transforming our own organization through institutional change;
- Working with residents on neighborhood initiatives and building partnerships to address the root causes of health inequities;
- Addressing local, state, and federal policies that impact social and health inequities;
- Supporting this innovative work with data and research; and
- Connecting our programs and services to all of these areas.

Each of us plays a critical role in stopping this disease and protecting the hardest hit populations in this pandemic--our county's Latinx and African American community members. We encourage everyone to reflect on your personal and organizational alignment, and let us know if we may partner to further this important work.

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[Weekly Update PDF Version](#)



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