

# CORONAVIRUS UPDATES

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Week of September 28, 2020

## Alameda County Health Care Services Agency Update

*Please share with your networks*

County risk level	New cases	Positive tests
<b>WIDESPREAD</b> Many non-essential indoor business operations are closed	<b>More than 7</b> daily new cases (per 100k)	<b>More than 8%</b> Positive tests
<b>SUBSTANTIAL</b> Some non-essential indoor business operations are closed	<b>4 - 7</b> daily new cases (per 100k)	<b>5 - 8%</b> Positive tests
<b>MODERATE</b> Some indoor business operations are open with modifications	<b>1 - 3.9</b> daily new cases (per 100k)	<b>2 - 4.9%</b> Positive tests
<b>MINIMAL</b> Most indoor business operations are open with modifications	<b>Less than 1</b> daily new cases (per 100k)	<b>Less than 2%</b> Positive tests

Alameda County is in the [State's Blueprint for a Safer Economy](#) Red Tier. If our current metrics remain stable or improve this week, we will be eligible to move into the [Orange Tier](#) next week. The County will continue to take a phased approach to reopening to avoid dramatic increases in disease transmission and re-closures.

Over the summer, the Health Care Services Agency partnered with eight youth-serving organizations to host a **youth-led COVID-19 health promotion and prevention messaging contest**. Youth and young adults ages 13 to 24 created and designed content in four categories, and submissions moved through internal competitions across the eight participating organizations before being promoted to a countywide final competition. People who live and/or work in Alameda County may [vote](#) before October 15. Entries with the most votes will be recognized by the Board of Supervisors and have their work shared featured in our messaging campaigns. Congratulations to all the finalists, and please cast your vote today!

Each week we provide a digest of new information sourced from presentations to the [Board of Supervisors](#) and other key stakeholders. We hope you find this summary useful, and we appreciate your readership and your support.

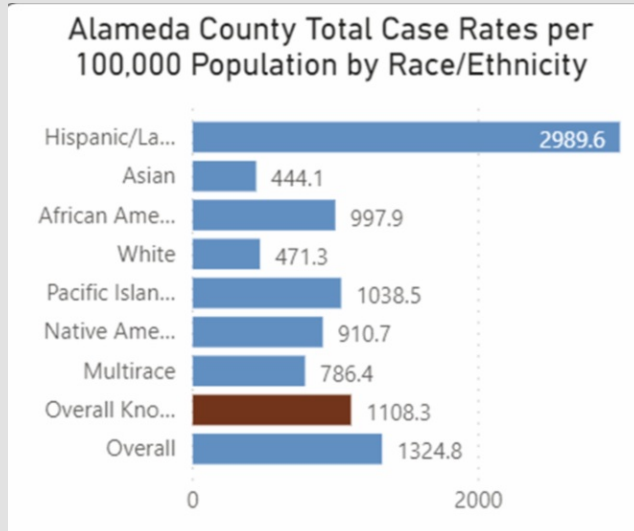
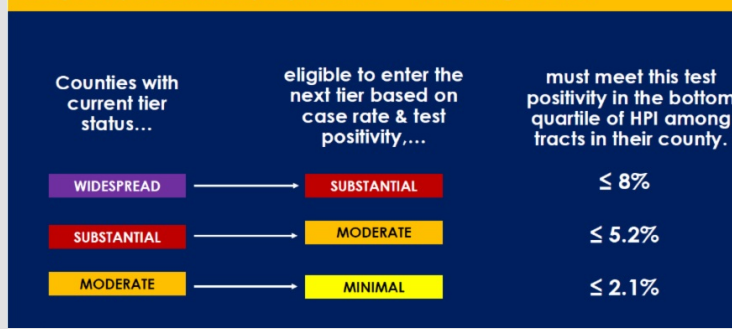
[Public Health Department Website](#)

[Alameda County Dashboard](#)

## Health Equity Metric

As we mentioned last week, the State announced a new COVID-19 [health equity](#)

metric requiring counties to ensure testing positivity rates in the most disadvantaged neighborhoods are within the same range as the County's overall test positivity rate.



As of October 5, the test positivity in the most disadvantaged areas was 3.8%, compared to 2% countywide. Both of those numbers are within the range for the orange tier. Although there is more work to be done, our focus on highly impacted areas is contributing to a decrease in test positivity and case rates in those areas and the County as a whole.

Our Agency's work in partnership with community organizations continues to be critical to reducing racial and ethnic health disparities. We will continue to focus on highly impacted zip codes in West Oakland, East Oakland, Fruitvale/San Antonio, Ashland/Cherryland, and South Hayward.

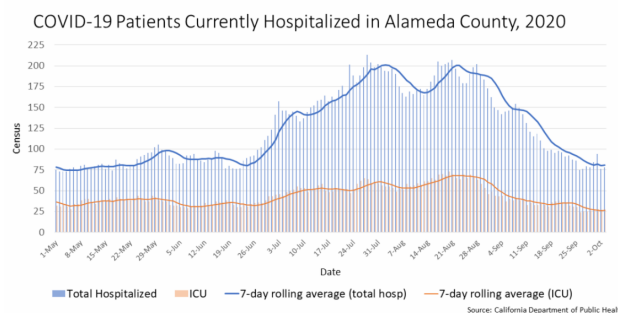
## Trends in Cases and Hospitalizations

The number of new case per day is decreasing and our positivity rate continues to trend downward. Hospitalization continue to decline as well. The September 29 metrics reflect the state's 7 day average and 7 day lag:

- Adjusted case rate for tier assignment is 4.1 per 100,000.

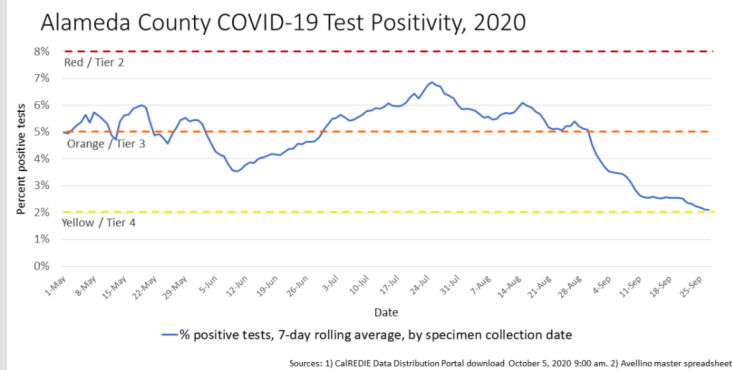
As of October 3:

- Cumulative cases were 21,708 and cumulative deaths were 425.
- Patients hospitalized were 78 and patients in ICU beds were 27.



## Testing

- We continue to surpass our **testing** goal of 3,100 per day. The countywide testing positivity is 2.3%, and 296.1 tests per 100,000; both reflect a 7 day average and 7 day lag.



A soft launch of a COVID-19 testing site in partnership with Eden United Church of Christ in Hayward is taking place this Friday and Saturday. This site will serve the Ashland/Cherryland community by [appointment](#) on Fridays 3 pm to 7 pm, and Saturdays 10 am to 4

pm. Alameda County is working with [Community Organized Relief Effort](#) (CORE) and [Fulgent Genetics](#) to bring free testing to locations that are well-positioned to reach disproportionately impacted communities or communities that are underserved by COVID-19 testing.

Testing locations and appointment links are posted on the [COVID-19 testing webpage](#) and searchable in the [interactive map of COVID-19 services](#). Eleven community testing sites offer free tests using [county testing guidance](#) for any community member with symptoms, all essential workers, and those at higher medical risk regardless of symptoms.

[Updated Alameda County guidance on COVID-19 laboratory testing](#) was released on September 24.

## Case and Contact Investigation, Isolation and Quarantine

Alameda County currently has 38 outbreak investigators and 169 trained case investigators/contact tracers, including 30 at community-based organizations. Last week 52% of cases were reached within 24 hours of receiving contact information, 57% cases were reached within 48 hours, and 70% were reached within the week.

As a reminder, [Project Roomkey](#) has 1,234 hotel rooms and trailer slots and continues to provide isolation/quarantine housing for people living in crowded conditions or are experiencing Homelessness.

## Homelessness and Housing 2020 Election Forum

On Friday October 9, from 3:30 to 5:00 pm, the League of Women Voters will host a Homelessness and Housing 2020 Election Forum. This Forum is a non-partisan educational ZOOM call to help people experiencing homelessness, homeless services staff and advocates learn about the thirteen state and local ballot measures and their impact on housing and homelessness. You can join via [Zoom](#) or by phone 1-669-900-9128 Meeting ID 865 7552 1879 Passcode 297927. An additional Forum will be held on October 23rd for those who can't attend on October 9th.



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