

# CORONAVIRUS UPDATES

Get the latest news from our Public Health Department

Week of February 22

## Alameda County Health Care Services Agency Update

*Please share with your networks*

Over the last week we saw continued improvements in countywide COVID-19 metrics, with case rates dropping. We remain in the Purple Tier of the state's [Blueprint for a Safer Economy](#), but could meet the requirements of the less restrictive Red Tier in a few weeks if case and test positivity rates continue to improve. To support this progress, we're promoting the State's new [5 Ws](#) social media campaign.

### As the Work Continues to End the Pandemic, We Must Follow the Five Ws to Stay Safer:

- **WEAR** a mask
- **WASH** your hands
- **WATCH** your distance
- **WAIT** to see loved ones
- **WHEN** it's your turn, get vaccinated

BE Well

ALAMEDA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

@Dare2BWell

We continue encouraging residents to get [tested](#) for COVID-19. Although the vaccine has been shown to prevent mild and severe cases of COVID-19, researchers are still [investigating](#) if vaccinated individuals can contract and transmit the disease to others. If true, individuals who aren't vaccinated could be at risk of

contracting COVID-19 so it's best to practice the [5Ws](#) to remain healthy!

Our efforts to get vaccine to staff and residents in long term care facilities are having a positive impact: vaccination rates among participants are close to 90%, hospitalizations are falling, and we're observing a 74% reduction in the average number of deaths over a 1.5month period. There are more than 15,000 residents in Long-Term Care Facilities (LTCFs) and Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFEs) in Alameda County, and more than 600 facilities in total.

Our [Vaccine Community Advisory Group](#) met again this week and the [presentation](#) and [recording](#) are available to review. This week's update to our Board of Supervisors and back issues of our newsletter may be found [here](#).

Alameda County Dashboard

Public Health Department Website

COVID-19 Vaccine Update

As of February 23, [over 330,000](#) vaccine doses have been administered to Alameda County residents, representing over 244,000 first and over 83,000 second doses. Although we are expecting 17,690 more doses of the first vaccine dose this week, our vaccine supply remains limited. Once we have enough vaccines to expand appointments, we will share this information widely along with details about when and how eligible groups can get vaccinated. [Family caregivers](#) for people with certain disabling conditions are eligible to receive COVID-19 vaccine as health care workers and, starting March 15, individuals with certain disabilities and underlying health conditions will be included in the eligible groups.

As vaccine supply remains limited, we encourage residents to be patient and register to be notified when it's your turn. English, Spanish, and Simplified Chinese notification forms are available on our vaccine [webpage](#). Please watch our [video tutorial](#) if you need assistance completing notification forms.

## It's Your Turn: Who is Eligible?

Currently, Alameda County residents 65 and older and essential workers who live or work in Alameda County are eligible to receive the vaccine. Essential workers include:

- Health Care Workers
- Education and Childcare Providers
- Emergency services (including law enforcement)
- Food and Agricultural Workers

There are 240,000 residents age 65 and older in Alameda County. Of these, 96,000 are 75 and older and nearly 58,000 have received at least one dose of vaccine.

Click [here to find your vaccine site](#). Due to limited vaccine supply, we're still conducting direct outreach to eligible residents. Workers in education and childcare, and food and agriculture should check their email for an invitation to make an appointment.

Please note that the Alameda County Fairgrounds drive-thru vaccination site is offering vaccines to Alameda County residents aged 65 and older. [Click here to make an appointment](#).

Additional resources include a [COVID Vaccine FAQ](#) and our [Provider Guidance](#).

## CDC Vaccine Taskforce Members Tour Fremont High School POD



Members of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Vaccine Taskforce visited our Fremont High School POD last Friday, to observe and learn more about how we are locating sites in, and reaching the residents of our priority neighborhoods. In addition to sharing outreach strategies, we shared the importance of locating PODs in the highest impacted neighborhoods. We

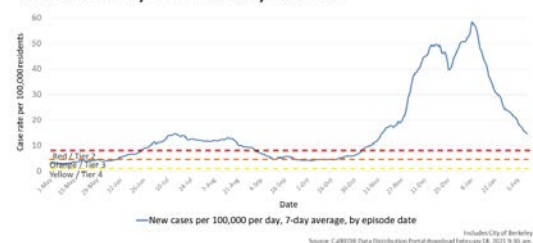
also shared our efforts to keep equity at the center of local distribution plans by focusing on communities who are disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. We hope the taskforce encourages the development of additional PODS in the communities most impacted across our nation.

## COVID-19 Data Update

Alameda County COVID-19 Test Positivity



Alameda County COVID-19 Daily Case Rate



The following data reflects the state's 7-day average and 7-day lag data reported February 16 through February 23:

- 79,539 cumulative cases
- 1,200 cumulative deaths
- 9.5 adjusted case rate per 100,000
- 3.2% overall test positivity rate
- 5.3% lowest [HPI](#) quartile test positivity
- 7,500+ [testing](#) 7-day average
- 176 patients currently hospitalized
- 58 patients in ICU
- 218 Contact Investigators & Tracers
- 20 Community Resource Navigators

## Protecting Our Seniors

This week, Bay Area Health Officers from 9 Local Health Jurisdictions (8 counties) asked all acute care hospitals to immediately institute protocols to offer the COVID-19 vaccine to:

- All unvaccinated patients age 65 and older prior to discharge home
- All patients discharged to a skilled nursing or other long-term care facilities

Fortunately, most of our residents in these categories have received at least the first dose of the vaccine. We are committed to being active partners with facilities to develop plans for providing the second dose of the vaccine to these groups. We hope that other Bay Area Counties support this effort as well.

## Updated Sports Guidance

On February 19, the state issued [updated guidance for youth and recreational adult sports](#). The guidance takes effect on February 26 and applies to all organized youth and adult sports, including school and community-sponsored programs, and privately organized clubs and leagues. Multi-team competitions allowed under the California's updated Outdoor and Indoor Youth and Recreational Adult Sports will be permitted in Alameda County with strong recommendations to limit the number of teams participating and no added restrictions.

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Weekly Update PDF Version

