

# CORONAVIRUS UPDATES

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Week of March 1

## Alameda County Health Care Services Agency Update

*Please share with your networks*

This week we moved closer to the Red Tier of the state's [Blueprint for a Safer Economy](#). If our current COVID metrics remain steady or improve this week, we will be able to move into the Red Tier next week which would allow additional activities with limits on capacity. These include indoor dining, movies, gyms and fitness centers, retail stores, and museums.

While trends are looking favorable, COVID-19 recovery is far from over. We want to remind everyone that the virus is still widespread and we have several cases of the B.1.1.7 (UK) variant and two reported cases of the B.1.351 (South Africa) variant detected in our county. We must remain diligent about the use of face coverings, physical distancing, and continued avoidance of prohibited gatherings. We're moving in the right direction, but as we've learned through past surges, relaxing too soon can very quickly halt our momentum.

We are going full speed ahead to get as many people vaccinated as quickly as possible. We are optimistic that in the coming months we'll all be able to enjoy fewer restrictions. But it will take time, especially as we reach people who aren't ready to get the vaccine. This is a good reminder to continue COVID precautions even after vaccination. Wear a mask, stay at least 6 feet apart, and avoid gatherings. We look forward to doing things we used to do and must remember that masking up is about getting back to normal.

This week's update to our Board of Supervisors and back issues of our newsletter may be found [here](#).

[Alameda County Dashboard](#)

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## COVID-19 Vaccine Update

As of March 2, more than 417,000 COVID-19 doses have been administered in Alameda County, representing over 303,000 first and more than 114,000 second doses. This means that 8.3% of our population over the age of 16 is now fully vaccinated. Getting vaccinated will help protect

all of us from COVID-19 and people should take the first shot they are offered since any of the COVID-19 vaccines will reduce severe disease.

Vaccine supplies remain limited in our County. We encourage residents to be patient and register to be notified when it is their turn. English, Spanish, and Simplified Chinese forms are available on our vaccine [webpage](#) and we offer a [video tutorial](#) to help residents complete the COVID vaccine notification forms. When there is enough vaccine to expand appointments, we will share that information widely along with information on when and how eligible groups can get vaccinated.



## The Single-Dose COVID-19 Vaccine Arrives Next Week

A new single-dose vaccine (Johnson & Johnson/Janssen) received emergency use approval late last week and is due to arrive in Alameda County next week. This new vaccine has been shown to protect individuals against COVID-19 related hospitalization and death after 28 days of receiving the vaccine. To learn more about this vaccine, please visit the Centers for Disease Control [webpage](#) about J&J/Janssen.

## COVID Vaccine POD Status



We are finalizing additional locations for community PODs in deep East Oakland and Ashland/Cherryland, based on the very successful Fremont High School POD in the Fruitvale district. We are also hosting a pop-up clinic with State and Federal partners at Eastmont Mall and La Familia is completing a pop-up POD in Ashland/Cherryland on Friday, March 5. Other planned mobile pop-ups include faith-based organizations on the weekends.

*Pictured at left: Titapu Mataafa, MA, Lifelong Medical Clinic displays a wreath crafted from vaccine vials.*

The State recently opened additional appointments at the Oakland Coliseum for Alameda County residents. Visit <https://myturn.ca.gov/> or call (833) 422-4255. [AC Transit is offering](#) free shuttle rides to the Oakland Coliseum for vaccination appointments. [The Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority](#) (LAVTA) will provide free rides on existing Wheels, Rapid and Dial-a-Ride services to and from COVID-19 vaccination sites in Livermore, Pleasanton, and Dublin, including hospitals, pharmacies, and other immunization locations.

## Advocating to Expand Community Reach at the Oakland Coliseum

We sent a letter to CalOES and FEMA this week, advocating the expansion

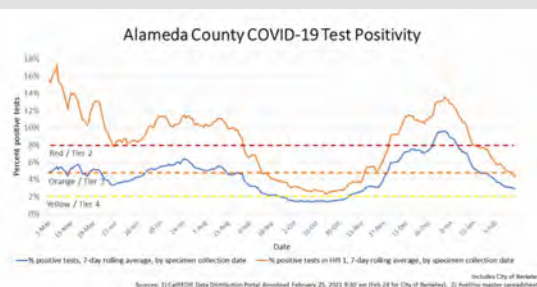
of community vaccination services offered at the Oakland Coliseum POD including:

- securing additional mobile units to enable more pop-up clinics in the community,
- increasing vaccination capacity for those mobile units,
- funding for community-based organizations and faith-based organizations that are hosting or otherwise supporting pop-up clinics, and
- resources for a period of 24 weeks to enable four full rounds of 2-dose vaccinations.



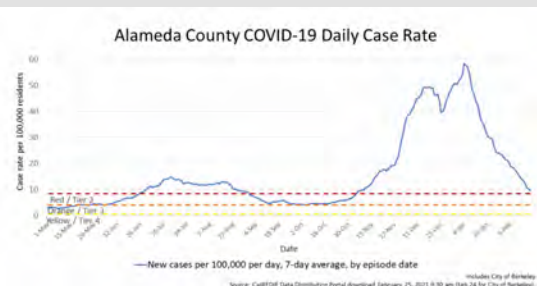
We believe that these additional services and resources will help us better serve our hardest-hit communities and ensure that the communities that were first to suffer the effects of the pandemic are not last in line for the vaccine. We understand the Oakland Coliseum POD will continue operation for another five weeks.

## COVID-19 Data Update



The following data reflects the state's 7-day average and 7-day lag data reported February 23 through March 2:

- 80,777 cumulative cases
- 1,242 cumulative deaths
- 6.3 adjusted case rate per 100,000
- 2.4% overall test positivity rate
- 3.7% lowest **HPI** quartile test positivity
- 8,000+ **testing** 7-day average
- 152 patients currently hospitalized
- 36 patients in ICU
- 48 Outbreak Investigators
- 139 Contact Investigators & Tracers
- 20 Community Resource Navigators



## Reaching Homebound Residents

We estimate that approximately 10,000 people in Alameda County are homebound with limited mobility and, of those, 2-3% are bed-bound and will require at-home vaccination. To help serve this community, we are working with four pharmacies for on-site mobile vaccination of senior affordable housing, room and board, unlicensed room and board, mixed affordable housing, and homeless shelters. We are also communicating with a couple of community-based organizations to provide transportation and vaccination clinics to elderly homebound residents, and we are discussing potential collaboration with paratransit. We'll share more details as they are available.

## Protecting the Homeless Community

We continue to partner with Health Care for the



Homeless, Alameda County Behavioral Health's mobile team, and Alameda Health System to vaccinate our homeless community. So far, we have allocated over 600+ doses to [Project Room Key](#) locations to vaccinate staff and residents. Soon we will be launching vaccine clinics at shelters, and we will continue to work on new ways to vaccinate our homeless community.

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