

CORONAVIRUS UPDATES

Get the latest news from our Public Health Department

Week of March 8

Alameda County Health Care Services Agency Update

Please share with your networks

Alameda County advanced to the Red Tier of the state's [Blueprint for a Safer Economy](#) this week. This means restaurants, gyms, museums, and movie theatres can now operate indoors with capacity limits set by the state. More residents have been vaccinated and we received 9000 doses of the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine this week. To reflect vaccine progress statewide, the State is making [changes to the Blueprint](#) for a Safer Economy framework that will allow counties to move through the tiers more quickly. This includes Thursday's [announcement](#) about limited opening for we breweries, wineries, and distilleries.

We remain hopeful for the days ahead and cautious given how quickly things can change. Please continue to practice the precautions that are known to prevent COVID-19. Wear a mask, wash your hands, watch your distance, wait to see loved ones, and when it's your turn get vaccinated. All three approved vaccines are highly effective against severe COVID-19 illness, hospitalization, and death. The state is changing its vaccine allocation framework this week, and supplies remain limited.

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

Pictured at right: Dr. Donna Carey, True Vine Ministries, and Colleen Chawla, Alameda County Health Care Services Agency Director.

As of March 11, [over 505,000](#) COVID-19 vaccine doses have been administered in Alameda County, representing over 357,000 first and over 144,000-second doses:

- 27% of residents 16 and older have received at least one dose
- 11% of all residents are fully

vaccinated

The state's new vaccine equity metric allocates 40% of the supply to the lowest Healthy Place Index (HPI) quartiles in California. This metric includes Alameda County zip codes 94601, 94621, 94603. Allocations will soon be adjusted for the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, the March 15 expansion to people ages 16-64 who are at the very highest risk for disease and death due to certain conditions and disabilities, and transition to Blue Shield, the state's new third-party administrator.



The State Adds Vaccine Equity to the Safer Economy Blueprint

Blueprint Tier Framework Thresholds Upon Meeting Statewide Vaccine Equity Metric Goals

Doses administered in the Vaccine Equity Quartile (statewide)	Tier 1 Widespread (Purple)	Tier 2 Substantial (Red)	Tier 3 Moderate (Orange)	Tier 4 Minimal (Yellow)
Current: Less than 2 million doses administered	Case Rate >7	Case Rate 4 - 7	Case Rate 1 - 3.9	Case Rate <1
Goal #1: 2 Million administered	Case Rate > 10	Case Rate 4 - 10	Case Rate 1 - 3.9	Case Rate < 1
Goal #2: 4 Million doses administered	Case Rate > 10	Case Rate 6 - 10	Case Rate 2 - 5.9	Case Rate <2

Last Thursday, Governor Gavin Newsom announced that the state is adding a vaccine equity metric to help ensure communities in the lowest Healthy Places Index (HPI) quartile are provided the opportunity to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

The state will now dedicate 40% of all COVID-19 vaccines to the lowest HPI quartiles across California. The vaccine equity metric's initial goal is to deliver a minimum of 2 million doses to these zip codes and, when reached, the state will adjust the case rate thresholds to allow for modestly higher case rates in each tier. The Blueprint will be updated again once the state hits 4 million doses distributed. These changes to the Blueprint will allow counties to advance through the tiers more quickly while ensuring that communities in the lowest HPI quartiles receive access to vaccine.

COVID-19 Vaccine Promotion Campaigns

Two campaigns are underway to address vaccine acceptance and share information through trusted messengers. The first, entitled *COVID-19 Community Voices*, was developed by our agency and features faith leader testimonials that can be viewed on [YouTube](#). Please share and let us know if you want to join the conversation.

THE CONVERSATION: Between Us, About Us was co-developed by the [Kaiser Family Foundation](#) and the [Black Coalition Against COVID](#). The campaign dispels misinformation and provides accessible COVID-19 vaccines facts. The campaign's launch video features W. Kamau Bell in conversation with Black doctors, nurses, and researchers and more information can be found [here](#).



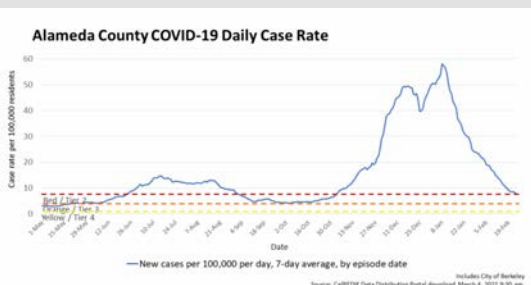
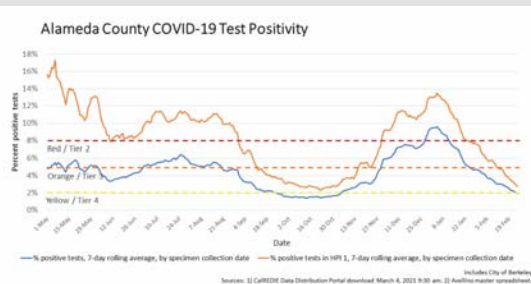
Youth Sports & Masking Guidance Update from CDPH

The California Department of Public Health recently released an update on its outdoor and indoor youth and recreational adult sports guidance. The guidance update allows any youth or adult recreational sports team, including indoor sports, to begin practice with contact and competition if they adhere to specific requirements applicable to college sports under the state's industry guidance for [Institutions of Higher Education](#). Additional information about the updated guidance, which went into effect on March 5, is [available here](#).



CDPH also released [updated guidance on the use of masks](#) highlighting the importance of proper fit and filtration. The guidance includes details about when individuals may want to consider [double masking](#), when wearing an effective mask is especially important and how to choose the most effective mask. This update provides useful information and serves as a reminder of the important role masks play in reducing the transmission of COVID-19.

COVID-19 Data Update



The following data reflects the state's 7-day average and 7-day lag data reported March 2 through March 9:

- 81,345 cumulative cases
- 1,292 cumulative deaths
- 4.8 adjusted case rate per 100,000
- 1.8% overall test positivity rate
- 2.6% lowest [HPI](#) quartile test positivity
- 8,500+ [testing](#) 7-day average
- 116 patients currently hospitalized
- 34 patients in ICU
- 48 Outbreak Investigators
- 161 Contact Investigators and Tracers
- 20 Community Resource Navigators

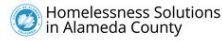
Project Roomkey

To date, we have housed 420 guests from Project Roomkey's (PRK) Operation Safer Ground. This

incredible program has prevented the spread of COVID 19 by providing isolation and quarantine locations for people who are COVID+ or exposed and safe shelter for people who are homeless and at high risk for complications from COVID-19. PRK has assisted people from every city and the Unincorporated area in Alameda County. Thank you to our PRK partners and county staff for protecting our residents and providing a vital service.



For more information, contact us today! ACHomes@acgov.org | 510-777-2100



We can house more people with more units. As a reminder, we offer a [landlord incentive program](#) and ask that you remind your colleagues, friends, and neighbors of the opportunity lease a unit and help us find more places to call home.

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Weekly Update PDF Version

