

# CORONAVIRUS UPDATES

Get the latest news from our Public Health Department

Week of May 3

## Alameda County Health Care Services Agency Update

*Please share with your networks*

As Public Service Appreciation Week comes to a close, we want to recognize our County employees, City colleagues, and community partners for their hard work and dedication. Thank you for all you do each day to serve Alameda County residents! Over the past year, we have strengthened partnerships and established stronger bonds that will serve our community well now and into the future.

The pandemic has stretched health departments across the state and this week provided an opportunity to share messages supporting investments in California's public health infrastructure. Health Care Services Agency Director, Colleen Chawla, who also serves as current President of the County Health Executives Association of California (CHEAC), reminds us that "*when we make system-level investments, we are investing in the health of our communities.*"

Our county remains in the Orange Tier of the [State's Blueprint for a Safer Economy](#). More than 72 percent of our residents have stepped forward and received at least one vaccination and 48 percent are fully vaccinated. Despite these improvements, we cannot let up. COVID-19 variants and rare but possible [breakthrough infections](#) among vaccinated individuals requires continued:

- Social distancing
- Support for getting family and friends vaccinated
- Facial coverings especially when you don't know if others around you are vaccinated
- Precautions when [gathering and/or traveling in small groups](#) to help prevent future COVID-19 surges, illnesses, hospitalizations, and death.

Additional information follows below and in this week's [update](#) to our Board of Supervisors. Please share these updates with others.

[Alameda County Dashboard](#)

[Public Health Department Website](#)

## COVID-19 Vaccine Update

As of May 5, nearly [1.5 million](#) COVID-19

vaccine doses have been administered to Alameda County residents. More than 603,000 or 43.5 percent of residents 16 and older are now fully vaccinated. Residents who haven't been vaccinated can use our [interactive map](#) to find a site, see our [new flyer](#) for a list of Alameda County-supported sites, make an [appointment](#) on our website, or check with their medical provider.



We understand individual concerns and remind our residents that research shows the [benefits of getting vaccinated](#) outweigh the risks of getting COVID-19 which can include hospitalization and death. We encourage you to watch our latest COVID-19 [Community Update](#) forum featuring local health leaders and facts about the vaccines. Although the Johnson & Johnson vaccine is the primary focus, the other available COVID-19 vaccines are also discussed.

## What Does Fully Vaccinated Mean?

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) this week provided [guidance](#) for fully vaccinated individuals. You are considered "fully vaccinated" two weeks after receiving the second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or two weeks after receiving a single dose of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine.

Fully vaccinated people may:

- Spend time outdoors and indoors with other fully vaccinated people, without wearing masks or physical distancing (outside of a workplace setting).
- Spend time indoors with unvaccinated people from a single household who are at low risk for severe COVID-19 disease, without wearing masks or physical distancing.
- Refrain from wearing face coverings outdoors except when attending crowded outdoor events such as live performances, parades, fairs, festivals, sports events, and other similar settings.

Alameda County is aligned with CDPH's [guidance](#) for fully vaccinated people which is based on the Centers for Disease Control's [guidance](#).

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## Community & Coliseum Mega POD Update



The Oakland Coliseum mega Point of Dispensing (PODs) is [scheduled to close on May 23](#). The decision to close was made after the successful administration of nearly 250,000 vaccine doses to Alameda County residents and a rapid reduction in first dose appointments over the last two weeks of April. The Oakland Coliseum Pedestrian Village will remain open

through May 9 for walk-up individuals who have appointments for second doses, and the rest of the site will remain open until May 23 to complete second doses.

The closure of the Oakland Coliseum mega POD is in line with our shift to more focused and localized options that address a changing vaccine landscape and reflect positive feedback about community-based strategies. We look forward to expanding mobile pop-up options in the community and adding an additional stationary community site at Allen Temple. Please visit our [Vaccines](#) page for more information about our Community PODs and other vaccine efforts.

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## The Veteran's Administration Will Host a Special Vaccine Event

The VA is hosting a Johnson & Johnson Vaccine Day event at the [West Oakland Senior Center](#) (1724 Adeline St. Oakland, CA 94607) on Saturday, May 15 from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm. All veterans and veteran spouses and caregivers 18 and older are invited to attend. Alameda County residency is not a requirement. Appointments are encouraged and walk-ins are welcome while supplies last. Call 1-800-382-8387 to book an appointment.



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## Workplaces Can Support Vaccination Efforts



Employers can help increase vaccine uptake by providing information about COVID-19 vaccination and establishing supportive policies and practices, such as time off to get vaccinated. The CDC offers guidance for [Workplace Vaccination Programs](#) and accurate messages promote confidence in the decision to get vaccinated. Strong confidence in COVID-19 vaccines within the workplace leads to more people getting vaccinated, which leads to fewer COVID-19 illnesses, hospitalizations, and deaths.

We also encourage employers to visit our COVID-19 [Workplace Guidance](#) page for updates about reopening best practices and COVID-19 workplace safety guidance.

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## COVID-19 Data Update

## 7 - Day Average and 7 Day Lag Data for April 24 - May 1

**86,080  
Cummulative  
Cases**

**1.4% overall test  
positivity rate**

**8,500 + testing 7-  
day average**

**3.6 adjusted case  
rate per 100,000**

**2.4% lowest HPI  
quartile test  
positivity**

**84 patients  
currently  
hospitalized  
20 patients in ICU**

### Survey to Identify Communication Gaps in Older Adult Community



The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed existing challenges faced by older adults in Alameda County, including inequitable access to digital resources. We want to learn more about the level of access older adults have, and how they typically use, the internet. The Alameda County Council for Age-Friendly Communities is conducting a [survey](#) and we encourage you to share with your networks . The survey is brief and available in nine languages.

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Weekly Update PDF Version

