

CORONAVIRUS UPDATES

Get the latest news from our Public Health Department

Week of May 10

Alameda County Health Care Services Agency Update

Please share with your networks

This week, the Centers for Disease Control's Advisory Committee of Immunization Practices (ACIP) approved the Pfizer vaccine for individuals age 12 to 15. Following the approval from the ACIP, the state updated the myturn.ca.gov vaccine appointment website, informing families that appointments can be made for 12+ youth starting May 13. We announced the availability of vaccine at some providers, along with plans for [family days and drop in access for priority neighborhoods](#).

The age expansion is welcome news in Alameda County where more than half of our residents age 16 and older are fully vaccinated. The recent approval of the Pfizer vaccine for youth 12 to 15 will help further vaccination across our community, helping us reach herd immunity (*see related article below*). Achieving greater levels of vaccination will also help us stay on the path to normalcy.

As we look to June 15 and the State's planned lifting of the [Blueprint for a Safer Economy](#), we must acknowledge Alameda County's daily case rates that keep us in the Orange Tier. Moving forward will require continued caution and prevention measures, and additional progress on vaccination. If you were waiting to avoid the early lines and wait times, please make a vaccine [appointment](#) now or check with your medical provider. Supplies are good and it is easier than ever to get vaccinated.

Please share these updates with your colleagues and others you feel would benefit from this information. Thank you for your readership and continued support.

[Alameda County Dashboard](#)

[Public Health Department Website](#)

Pfizer Is Now Approved for Youth Ages 12-15

This week the FDA authorized the use of the Pfizer vaccine for youth ages 12 to 15, followed by approval from the ACIP. More than 2,000 youth participated in the clinical trials which showed the Pfizer

vaccine is safe and well tolerated in this age group. Some Alameda County health care providers will begin vaccinating 12+ youth immediately and we will offer the Pfizer vaccine to all eligible youth through our Community PODs beginning next week. Locations will include the Alameda County Fairgrounds, Hayward Adult School, Fremont High School, the old Decoto School, and pop-up events including partnership with schools.



COVID-19 Vaccine Update



As of May 12, over [1.6 million](#) doses have been administered in Alameda County. Almost 75 percent of residents age 16+ have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, and nearly 695,000 (52 percent) of our residents are fully vaccinated.

Youth Specific Vaccination Data:

Alameda County has nearly 40,000 residents ages 16 and 17 years old. More than 46% have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, while over 10 percent are fully vaccinated. Pfizer is the the only vaccine currently authorized for this age group and it request ultra-cold freezer storage. For this reason, UCSF and Stanford are vaccinating the majority of 16 and 17 year old residents. Those with health insurance coverage should check with their health care provider for appointments. As a reminder, residents age 16 and 17 are required to have parent/guardian consent.

COVID Vaccine Distribution: Shifting Our Focus



Nearly 75% of all Alameda County residents have received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine. Given this and improved vaccine supply, Alameda County is removing barriers to access and making it easier to obtain a vaccination at our sites.

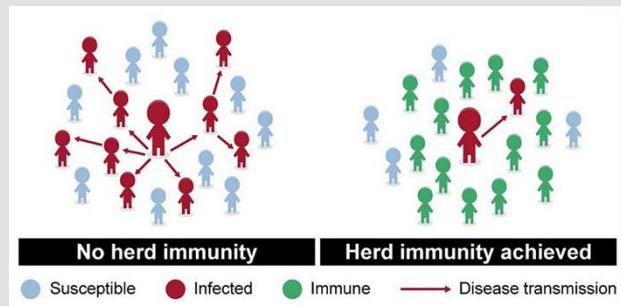
Some of the changes we have made so far:

- All Points of Dispensing (POD) appointments and drop-ins are now available to anyone living or working in Alameda County,
- We've shifted POD hours to include evenings and weekends wherever possible,
- Offering multiple vaccine types at every POD,
- Placing pop-up clinics at stores and community locations,
- Opening more community-based PODs like Allen Temple in deep East Oakland,
- Offering Family Days for kids 12+ and their families to be vaccinated together.

Herd Immunity - What Is It and Are We There Yet?

Herd immunity occurs when there are so many people immune to COVID in our community that a person with COVID-19 is unlikely to infect anyone else. Understanding herd immunity helps us recognize the importance of COVID-19 vaccinations in our community, our state, our nation, and around the world. It may take a while to get to herd immunity for reasons including the:

- Lack of a vaccine for young children at this time,
- Number of people choosing not to get vaccinated yet, and
- Multiple places around the world lacking access to the COVID-19 vaccine



The longer it takes to reach herd immunity, the higher the likelihood that COVID-19 will continue to be a threat to the health of our residents. Please don't wait. [Get vaccinated](#) as soon as you can. COVID-19 vaccines keep people healthy, greatly reduce the chance of severe disease, keep hospitalizations low and stable, and help us protect others. COVID-19 vaccinations also allow us to continue relaxing COVID restrictions to enjoy many of the activities we stopped during the pandemic.

Image credit: The U.S. Government Accountability Office

COVID-19 Data Update

7 - Day Average and 7 Day Lag Data for May 1 - May 8

87,633
Cummulative
Cases

1.3% overall test
positivity rate

6,500 + testing 7-
day average

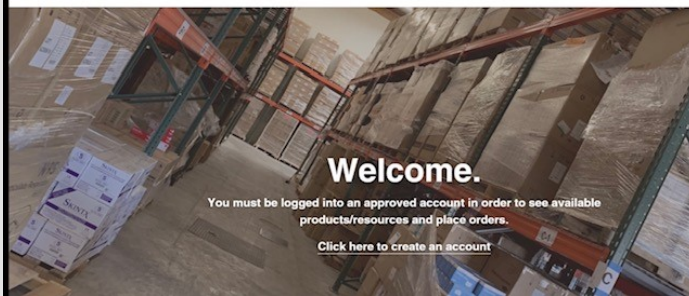
3.7 adjusted case
rate per 100,000

2.0% lowest HPI
quartile test
positivity

64 patients
currently
hospitalized
19 patients in ICU

Pandemic Supply Warehouse - A State Model

We want to thank the County's GSA department for their tenacious efforts to procure the much-needed PPE which was in short supply at the beginning of



the worldwide pandemic. While the State did provide some allocation of resources, it was not enough to meet the needs of our health care system. GSA helped our Emergency Medical Services Agency (EMS) team to create a stockpile of desperately needed supplies, while EMS

worked quickly to stand up a warehouse to receive, store, and distribute the supplies. The warehouse is able to keep a 3 to 6 month supply on hand and is moving towards scaling up for hazardous emergencies (earthquakes, fires, etc.). EMS also created a robust system to ensure supplies are restocked and equitably distributed as requests are made through a Shopify online ordering system. The State has recognized EMS as a model warehouse, procurement, and distribution operation.

California Health Equity Summit - June 10-11

Alameda County Health Care Services Agency's Behavioral Health Care Services Department, and the California Institute for Behavioral Health Solutions will host the annual California Health Equity Summit on June 10-11, 2021: ***Healing Communities Beyond 2020: Our Culture, Our Climate***. This virtual event will feature keynote speakers, Nobel Peace Prize nominee Stacey Abrams and Corrina Gould, chair and spokesperson for the Confederated Villages of Lisjan. The summit will feature 14 innovative workshops to advance social justice and equity throughout behavioral health systems and organizations. For more information about this virtual event, and to register to attend, go to <https://bit.ly/2QHcVvd>

A promotional graphic for the 2021 California Health Equity Summit. The top half has a light blue background with the text "2021 CALIFORNIA HEALTH EQUITY SUMMIT" in large, bold, white letters. Below that, in smaller white text, is "Healing Communities Beyond 2020: Our Health, Our Culture, Our Climate". Underneath is "is scheduled to take place virtually JUNE 10-11, 2021". The Alameda County Behavioral Health logo is present. The bottom half of the graphic has a teal background and lists two speakers: Corrina Gould on Thursday, June 10, 2021, and Stacey Abrams on Friday, June 11, 2021. Each speaker has a small circular portrait and a short bio. The bio for Corrina Gould mentions her role as Tribal spokesperson for the Confederated Villages of Lisjan/Oklone. The bio for Stacey Abrams mentions her role as a political leader, voting rights activist, entrepreneur, and author.

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