



Sonoma County
Key Messages: Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)
February 23, 2022

Key Messages are updated weekly, and used for County messaging to the community. Frequently Asked Questions and other relevant information is available at SoCoEmergency.org.

Vaccine Distribution

Milestones: As of today, 1,002,936 doses have been administered to Sonoma County residents.

Residents fully vaccinated: 377,608 - equal to 80.2 percent of the county's eligible population.

Residents partially vaccinated: 34,598 - equal to 7.4 percent of the county's eligible population.

Residents who have received boosters: 216,606 - equal to 63 percent of the county's eligible population.

More than 1 million doses of vaccine now have been administered in Sonoma County — an impressive milestone that everyone should take pride in. An average of 2,300 doses have been administered every day since the first shipments of vaccine arrived here 14 months ago. Two weeks ago, 80 percent of our eligible population became fully vaccinated.

All residents 5 and older are eligible for vaccination against COVID-19. Our focus remains on booster shots and pediatric vaccinations and encouraging everyone to wear a high-quality mask when appropriate. Boosters provide protection against the worst outcomes of COVID — severe illness, hospitalization and death. Breakthrough cases in fully vaccinated people tend to be mild or asymptomatic; unvaccinated people are at far greater risk. People who are unvaccinated here are 14.8 times more likely to be hospitalized if they get COVID and are 10.8 times more likely to die.

- To date 412,206 residents have received at least one dose -- 83.4 percent percent of the county's total population.
- 87.5 percent of our eligible population is fully or partially vaccinated.
- For comparison, 82.9 percent of the eligible California population and 81 percent of the eligible U.S. population is fully or partially vaccinated.

Current Sonoma County metrics:

- Our rate of new daily cases per 100,000 population is 26.2.
- Our case rate for unvaccinated individuals is 56 per 100,000 compared with 23.3 for vaccinated residents.
- Our overall testing positivity rate is 6.4 percent.
- Our equity metric testing positivity rate is 7.2 percent.

The county urges anyone who tests positive using an at-home antigen test to report the result by using a new online form available in English and Spanish. You can call the county's COVID hotline at 707-565-4667.

The County's vaccine clinics page is continually updated. The pop-up calendar shows what clinics are operating each day. Use the county's testing page to find a site and book an appointment.

California formally shifts to endemic strategy

California became the first state to formally shift to an "endemic" approach to the coronavirus with Gov. Gavin Newsom's announcement of a plan that emphasizes prevention and quick reaction to outbreaks over mandated masking and business shutdowns. The strategy will treat the virus as a manageable risk that "will remain with us for some time, if not forever," rather than an emergency. The "next phase" pandemic playbook includes measures to promote vaccines, stockpile medical supplies, quickly spot surges or variants and mount an aggressive assault on disinformation. The coronavirus has infected at least one in five Californians and claimed the lives of more than 83,000 state residents.

Gov. Newsom last week also loosened California's indoor mask requirements for fully vaccinated people, and state health officials said they would reconsider school mask mandates at the end of February. Sonoma and other Bay Area counties have aligned with the state on indoor masking.

A disease reaches the endemic stage when the virus still exists in a community but becomes manageable as immunity builds. But there will be no definitive turn of the switch, Newsom said, unlike the case with lifting of the state's indoor masking requirements. "This pandemic won't have a defined end. There's no finish line," Newsom said.

The state is using an acronym for its new approach: SMARTER, which stands for Shots, Masks, Awareness, Readiness, Testing, Education and Rx, a reference to improving treatments for COVID-19. Some key highlights:

- The plan includes increased monitoring of virus remnants in wastewater to watch for the first signs of a surge.
- Masks won't be required but will be encouraged in many settings.
- If a new variant emerges, state and federal officials have a goal to determine within 30 days if it responds to existing tests, treatments and immunities from vaccines or prior infections.
- California's health secretary, Dr. Mark Ghaly, said one of the goals is to avoid business closures and other far-reaching mandates. However, he said the state's requirement that schoolchildren be vaccinated against coronavirus by fall remains in effect.
- The plan includes new education, including "myth-buster videos" to fight misinformation and disinformation and help the public interpret ever-evolving precautions.
- A new office of community partnerships will send hundreds of workers into immigrant, disadvantaged and other hard-to-reach communities to combat disinformation and offer access to care.
- Other priorities would include addressing worker shortages at hospitals and nursing homes and studying the virus's effect on communities.
- FAQs explain the SMARTER strategy.

County aligns with state on masking

Sonoma County, along with the Bay Area counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Monterey, Napa, San Benito, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Cruz and Solano and the city of Berkeley, lifted universal mask requirements for

most indoor public settings on Feb. 16. Unvaccinated individuals over age 2 will continue to be required to wear masks in all indoor public settings. Businesses, venue operators and hosts may choose to require all patrons to wear masks to protect staff and patrons.

The change aligns Sonoma County with California's decision to let expire the statewide indoor mask requirement, which began Dec. 15. Indoor masking is still required by the state for everyone, regardless of vaccination status, in public transportation; health care settings; congregate settings such as correctional facilities and homeless shelters; long-term care facilities; and in K-12 schools and childcare settings. The state has [updated guidance](#) and [FAQs](#) regarding masking. The state also updated its fact sheet on when to wear a mask in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

County officials discussed the masking changes and the evolving pandemic strategies at community COVID updates on Feb. 16 (in English) and Feb. 17 (in Spanish) that were streamed live on the county's [Facebook page](#). Both are available on the county's [YouTube channel](#).

Dr. Sundari Mase, the county's health officer, said last week that we are "definitely going in the right direction." She also said that she understands that some people are anxious and she encourages people to continue wearing masks indoors if they wish. "Be kind and respectful as people evaluate their risk," Dr. Mase urged. She also encouraged those who remain at higher risk, including seniors, essential workers, those with underlying conditions and those who care for them, to continue wearing masks.

Dr. Mark Ghaly, the state's health and human services secretary, noted last week that California still strongly recommends indoor masking for everyone, as transmission remains elevated throughout the state.

By aligning with the state masking rules, the participating Bay Area counties will not need to meet previously established [criteria](#) for lifting local masking orders, which were devised at a different point in the pandemic.

County health order restricting large gatherings lifted

A Sonoma County health order restricting the size of large gatherings expired as scheduled on Feb. 11. On Jan. 12, Dr. Mase placed limits on the size of indoor and outdoor gatherings for 30 days in an attempt to prevent superspreader events as cases soared to unprecedented levels in Sonoma

County. Since then, the spread of COVID-19 has slowed significantly and hospitalizations have declined from historic levels. At a COVID update last week, health officials said the restrictions made a difference at a crucial time when our hospitals were at a real risk of being overwhelmed. Before the health order, 50 percent of new cases with a known source were from large gatherings because Omicron is so contagious. That dropped to 8 percent of new cases after the limits on large gatherings were put in place. The county's number of COVID-related hospitalizations also leveled off at far lower levels than were projected.

- The county is now detecting an average of 26.2 new cases of COVID-19 every day per 100,000 residents, down from an all-time high of nearly 250 cases per day in early January.
- The August peak during the Delta surge was 34 cases per day per 100,000 residents.
- In late April 2021, the county was averaging just 2.5 new cases every day per 100,000 residents.

Local hospitalizations and deaths

New local case rates and hospitalizations are declining, mirroring what's happening nationally and in California. COVID-related deaths continue to mount here; deaths often lag hospitalizations by a month or more.

- There were 44 COVID-related hospitalizations in the county as of Monday, compared with a peak of 116 on Jan. 21.
- Eight of those COVID patients were in ICU beds, compared with 19 on Jan. 25.
- There have been 49 COVID-related deaths reported here since Jan. 1, with 36 reported so far in January and 13 in February. Five deaths were reported in November, before the Omicron surge. During the peak of the Delta surge, 38 deaths were reported in August.
- County residents 65 and older have accounted for 74 percent of the 472 COVID-related deaths during the pandemic.
- Sonoma County's COVID death rate is less than half of California's. The county has recorded 95 COVID deaths per 100,000 residents during the pandemic compared with 214 deaths by 100,000 state residents.

County health officials also are concerned because the pandemic continues to disproportionately impact low-income communities of color. These communities face the highest risks of becoming infected because of their disproportionate representation in the essential workforce, lack of sick leave/job protections, multigenerational households, use of shared transportation and other factors. Latinx residents have accounted for more than half of all cases in the county despite making up 27.3 percent of the population. They also have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 hospitalizations and deaths, including reduced life expectancy.

New case rates in the county show the continued disproportionate impact on those communities, with case rates for Pacific Islander and Latinx residents 50 percent higher than for white and Asian residents. Vaccination rates, especially booster shots, are lagging in those communities. While 63 percent of eligible residents in the county have received a booster, just 47 percent of eligible Latinx residents have received one; 70 percent of eligible white and Asian residents have received booster shots. The county's equity outreach team remains committed to working closely with our community based organizations to engage with the pockets of our community that have lower vaccination and booster rates. Dr. Urmila Shende, the county's vaccine chief, said last week that such efforts take continued education, patience and perseverance. She said boosters offer a crucial level of protection from the worst outcomes as well as infection as our immunity wanes over time.

The CURA (COVID-19 Urgent Response and Aid) Project, which is a crucial pandemic provider of outreach for emergency financial assistance for the county's Latinx, Indigenous, and low-income community members, has experienced a surge of requests for emergency assistance this year. For most of January, CURA was receiving 1,100 calls every three days from community members regarding emergency assistance. During that period, a high volume of callers expressed they were experiencing housing insecurity related to tenant protections that have expired. Some 870 community members filled out the CURA application to receive assistance; 210 of those applicants stated that their family's housing is at risk; 402 indicated they were in quarantine and in need of food.

Other U.S. developments and trends

- Daily U.S. cases keep falling after topping 800,000 a day on Jan. 16. They are averaging 81,800, down 66 percent in two weeks, according

to a New York Times [database](#). Cases have fallen well below the peak of the Delta wave, when they peaked at 164,418 a day on Sept. 1.

- COVID deaths remain high but are starting to drop, down 24 percent in the past two weeks to 1,960 a day. The United States has recorded 937,000 COVID-19 deaths.
- 4.6 million child COVID cases have been reported since January. For the week ending Feb. 17, nearly 175,000 child cases were reported, down from the peak of 1.1 million reported the week ending Jan. 20. More than 12.5 million children have tested positive for COVID during the pandemic, according to the [American Academy of Pediatrics](#).
- The [CDC reports](#) that 93.2 million fully vaccinated people have received an additional vaccine dose in the United States.
- The CDC estimates that Omicron still accounts for [99.9 percent of COVID cases](#) in the United States.
- Americans can request four free rapid tests. Order at [covidtests.gov](#). Each household is limited to four free tests.
- You can obtain a digital copy of your California vaccine record at [my vaccine record.cdph.ca.gov](#).

New vaccine achieves 100% efficacy against severe disease

Two doses of a new COVID vaccine that is based on a conventional approach achieved 100 percent efficacy against severe disease and hospitalizations, and it could be an effective booster after other COVID shots, the vaccine's manufacturers announced today. The vaccine, made by the Europe-based pharmaceutical companies Sanofi and GSK, is one of four candidates that [received billions of dollars for development](#) from Operation Warp Speed, the Trump administration's program to accelerate vaccines.

- The new vaccine had an efficacy of 75 percent against moderate-to-severe disease. It showed 58 percent efficacy against symptomatic disease in its Phase 3 clinical trial.
- Used as a booster dose after one of the other available coronavirus vaccines, the Sanofi-GSK shot increased antibody levels by 18- to 30-fold. The companies intend to submit the vaccine for authorization in the United States and Europe, they said today.
- Sanofi and GSK were expected to seek authorization for their vaccine last year, but shelved those plans after clinical trials showed

disappointing results in older adults. They then developed a stronger version of the vaccine and tested it in new trials.

- In laboratory studies, two doses of the Sanofi-GSK vaccine stimulated the production of more neutralizing antibodies than an approved mRNA vaccine, the companies said. The vaccine was safe and well-tolerated by adults of all ages, the companies said.
- The best target for vaccines is a protein that covers the surface of the virus like a crown. While mRNA vaccines contain the genetic instructions for making the protein, the Sanofi-GSK vaccine uses a slightly modified version of the protein itself to stimulate an immune response. This is a commonly used approach for vaccines, and so may convince some people who have been hesitant to adopt the newer mRNA technology.

Omicron surge accounts for more U.S. deaths than Delta wave

The Omicron peak is behind us, but deaths, which often lag cases by several weeks, have surpassed the numbers from the Delta wave and are still increasing in much of the country.

- Since Nov. 24, when South Africa first reported the Omicron variant, the United States has confirmed more than 30 million new infections and more than 154,750 new deaths.
- From Aug. 1 to Oct. 31, a similar duration covering the worst of the Delta surge in the United States, the country confirmed 10.9 million new infections and 132,616 new deaths.
- That makes the official case count about 176 percent higher during the Omicron wave than in the equivalent-length Delta period.
- The death toll during the Omicron wave is about 17 percent higher so far than the death toll in the Delta wave.
- The gap between the increase in cases and the increase in deaths reflects Omicron's lower virulence compared with previous variants.

Update on local schools and pediatric vaccines

Local doctors and health officials continue to emphasize the safety of vaccines and the importance of parents getting their eligible children vaccinated and then boosted. There have been 3,141 student cases reported in the county since August and 294 staff cases. More than 2,000 new student cases have been reported in the county since classes resumed in

early January. School age children account for 21 percent of new local cases, more than any other age group.

- 46.5 percent of the county's eligible children ages 5 to 11 have received at least one dose since the vaccine became available in November; 36.5 percent of those children are fully vaccinated.
- The county's pediatric vaccine campaign is planned with a focus on equity. School-based clinics are in areas with high case rates, a high number of English learners, and with lower vaccination rates.
- A list [of school-based clinics](#) is on the Sonoma County Office of Education website along with information for parents.
- All doses are available at no cost to children or their parents.
- Children ages 5 to 17 can only receive the Pfizer vaccine. Children ages 12 and older are [eligible for a booster shot](#) of the Pfizer vaccine.
- Testimonial videos by local doctors, parents and students about the benefits of vaccines are available at the county's COVID [video library](#), on the county's [YouTube channel](#), and on the county [Office of Education vaccine information page](#).
- California has tips and resources for choosing the best mask for children at [Masks for Kids: Tips and Resources](#).

Researchers unraveling factors that may cause long COVID

Millions of people continue to suffer from exhaustion, cognitive problems and other long-lasting symptoms after having COVID. The exact causes of the illness, known as long COVID, are not known. [New research offers clues](#), describing the toll on the body and why it can be so debilitating.

Patients with severe COVID may wind up in hospitals or on ventilators until their symptoms resolve. Damage to the body from severe COVID — pneumonia, low oxygen, inflammation — typically shows up on traditional diagnostic tests. Long COVID is different: A chronic illness with a wide variety of symptoms, many of which are not explainable using conventional lab tests. Difficulties in detecting the illness have led some doctors to dismiss patients, or to misdiagnose their symptoms as psychosomatic. But researchers have found a wide range of visible dysfunction throughout the body. Long COVID goes by the medical name post-acute sequelae of COVID-19, or PASC.

Studies estimate that perhaps 10 to 30 percent of people infected may develop long-term symptoms. It's unclear why some people develop long

COVID and others don't, but four factors appear to increase the risk, according to a study published in the journal Cell:

- High levels of viral RNA early during an infection.
- The presence of certain autoantibodies.
- The reactivation of Epstein-Barr virus.
- Having Type 2 diabetes.

New law requires companies to provide paid sick leave for COVID

Gov. Gavin Newsom on Feb. 9 signed a law requiring companies with more than 25 employees to give workers up to two weeks of paid time off if they get sick from the coronavirus. The law took effect Feb. 19, is retroactive to Jan. 1 and expires Sept. 30. At the start of the pandemic, state and federal laws required most employers to give workers paid time off for COVID. California's law expired last September. Key information:

- The new law gives workers up to one week of paid time off if they get the coronavirus or are caring for a sick family member.
- They can get a second week off only if they or their family members test positive.
- An employer may require a test after five days have passed since the employee tested positive for COVID-19. If the employee fails to take such a test required by the employer, the employer may deny pay for any leave taken after the time the employer provides the test.
- Employers must pay for and provide the test.
- Workers can use the 40 hours of paid leave for a range of reasons, including COVID symptoms, quarantine and isolation and vaccine appointments.
- Complete information can be found in the state's FAQs, including the formulas to determine what part-time employees are eligible for.
- The California Labor Commissioner also has published a required workplace poster in English and Spanish.

Status of vaccine process for children under 5 years

The Food and Drug Administration announced early this month that a panel of independent experts would convene on Feb. 15 to determine if two doses of Pfizer-BioNTech's COVID-19 vaccine would be safe and effective for

children ages 6 months through 4 years old. The FDA called off the meeting days before it was scheduled to occur, explaining that it would now wait to evaluate data from three doses instead of two, which isn't expected until April at the earliest. This pivot was notable because the FDA had pressed Pfizer-BioNTech to initiate the review of two doses of the vaccine, despite disappointing clinical trial results from December, which found that two doses did not adequately protect children between 2 and 4 (though they did seem to protect those between 6 months and 2 years old).

Pfizer and BioNTech have been saying since December that children under 5 would probably need three vaccine doses, each of which would be one-tenth of the regular dose. FDA regulators may have been hoping that by starting the approval process for two doses before the three-dose trial data was available, they could start vaccinating young children sooner. "You can't rush safety," Dr. Yvonne Maldonado, a pediatric infectious diseases physician who is overseeing the Pfizer trial at Stanford, told the New York Times. Sometimes one dose — or even two — is not enough to boost immunity, she said. It's pretty common for young children to need multiple doses of a vaccine to get a big enough benefit, Dr. Maldonado said. The hepatitis B vaccine is given to children as three doses, while the diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (DTaP) vaccine typically requires five doses.

Studies indicate booster protection could last a long time

Three doses of a COVID vaccine — or even just two — are enough to protect most people from serious illness and death for a long time, new studies suggest. Federal health officials have said they are not planning to recommend fourth doses anytime soon. The Omicron variant can dodge antibodies — immune molecules that prevent the virus from infecting cells — produced after two doses of a COVID vaccine. But a third shot of the mRNA vaccines made by Pfizer-BioNTech or by Moderna prompts the body to make a much wider variety of antibodies, which would be difficult for any variant of the virus to evade, according to the most recent study, posted online on Feb. 15. The diverse array of antibodies produced should be able to protect people from new variants, even those that differ significantly from the original version of the virus, the study suggests.

What's more, other parts of the immune system can remember and destroy the virus over many months if not years, according to at least four studies

published in journals over the past month. Specialized immune cells called T cells produced after immunization by four brands of COVID vaccine — Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, Johnson & Johnson and Novavax — are about 80 percent as powerful against Omicron as other variants, the research found. Given how different Omicron's mutations are from previous variants, it's very likely that T cells would mount a similarly robust attack on any future variant as well, researchers said.

COVID patients may face increased risk of mental health issues

Social isolation, economic stress, loss of loved ones and other struggles during the pandemic have contributed to rising mental health issues such as anxiety and depression. But can having COVID itself increase the risk of developing mental health problems? A large new study suggests it can. The study, published Feb. 17 in the journal *The BMJ*, analyzed records of nearly 154,000 COVID patients in the Veterans Health Administration system and compared their experience in the year after they recovered from their initial infection with that of a similar group of people who did not contract the virus. The study included only patients who had no mental health diagnoses or treatment for at least two years before becoming infected with the coronavirus, allowing researchers to focus on psychiatric diagnoses and treatment that occurred after coronavirus infection.

- People who had COVID were 39 percent more likely to be diagnosed with depression and 35 percent more likely to be diagnosed with anxiety over the months following infection than people without COVID during the same period, the study found.
- COVID patients were 38 percent more likely to be diagnosed with stress and adjustment disorders and 41 percent more likely to be diagnosed with sleep disorders than uninfected people.
- The data does not suggest that most COVID patients will develop mental health symptoms. Only between 4.4 percent and 5.6 percent of those in the study received diagnoses of depression, anxiety or stress and adjustment disorders.
- Researchers also found that COVID patients were 80 percent more likely to develop cognitive problems like brain fog, confusion and forgetfulness than those who didn't have COVID.

Moderna vaccine granted full approval by FDA

The Food and Drug Administration granted full approval on Jan. 31 to Moderna's coronavirus vaccine, the second-most widely used in the United States and the second to receive full regulatory approval. The vaccine has been in use for more than a year under an emergency-use authorization.

- Pfizer and its partner BioNTech, the makers of a similar vaccine, won full federal approval in August for use in people 16 and older.
- The Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine is cleared for use in people 5 and older.
- 75 million people have been fully vaccinated with the Moderna vaccine in the United States, with 207 million total doses administered.
- Moderna can now market its vaccine under the name Spikevax.

What to know and do if you contract COVID

If you test positive for COVID, the first thing you should do is isolate yourself for at least five days to avoid infecting others. Follow the latest instructions on the county's Isolation and Quarantine page. They include:

- While isolating, stay in a separate room from those not infected. Use a separate bathroom if you can. Wear a good mask around others, even at home, and ask others in your home to do the same. Open the windows, when possible. If your residence has an HVAC system, make sure it has a fresh filter.
- Get a test on day five, and if it is negative you can end your isolation.
- California recommends a rapid antigen test, not a PCR test, to determine if you can exit isolation.
- If you can't get tested, you can end your isolation after 10 days if you don't have symptoms.
- California public health has fact sheets in English and now in Spanish to help residents understand current self-isolation guidance.
- California has launched a new Treatments Resources Page with information about COVID-19 treatment options available in California.

Emergency Rental Assistance Program pauses new applications

Nearly \$25 million in direct assistance has been provided to more than 2,100 local households through Sonoma County's Emergency Rental Assistance Program. More than 4,000 pending and completed applications are predicted

to draw down the remainder of the nearly \$40 million in rental assistance funds assigned to Sonoma County. As a result, Sonoma County on Feb. 11 put a pause on accepting any new applications for the program, which is funded by California and the federal government. The pause is necessary to try to ensure that all of those with completed applications will receive the funds they requested. If additional funds are reallocated to Sonoma County, the program will resume assistance.

- The program has assisted the most vulnerable populations in Sonoma County, as 54.83 percent of the awarded funds went to individuals making under 30 percent of the area's median income and 26.46 percent went to those making under 50 percent of the median income.
- In order for an individual to qualify for the program, they would need to make below 80 percent of the median income. (Sonoma County's median annual income is \$90,900 for a family of four).
- The program provided payment assistance for tenants who were behind on rent and utilities and was open to all residents.
- Applicants who want to know the status of their request are urged to contact the community organization they applied through.

Local vaccination availability

The County and its health partners are collaborating to make vaccines available when and where they are most needed. The county's vaccination calendar is continually updated. Residents who need help making an appointment can call the hotline at 707-565-4667 in English and Spanish.

In addition to pop-up clinics, multi-day clinics include:

- Sutter operates a daily clinic at 2360 Mendocino Ave. in Santa Rosa from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Appointments required (ages 12-plus).
- The Roseland Community Center clinic is operated by Fox Home Health at 779 Sebastopol Road. It is open Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (ages 5-plus). No appointment needed for first, second or booster shots. Call (707) 573-0223 for information.
- Fox Home Health's clinic is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 1400 N. Dutton Ave., Suite 17, Santa Rosa. Appointments required (ages 12-plus). Call (707) 573-0223.

- Rohnert Park Community Center clinic at 5401 Snyder Lane is open Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. (ages 5-plus) Appointments required.
- Rohnert Park Health Center operates a clinic at 5900 State Farm Dr. Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 1:15 (ages 12-plus) and 3 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. (ages 5-plus). Appointment needed for first, second or booster doses, call (707) 559-7500.
- Petaluma Health Center's clinic at 1179 N. McDowell Blvd. is open Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. and 1:30 to 4:45 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, ages 12-plus (Pfizer); Wednesday and Friday, 18-plus (Moderna). Appointments needed. (707) 559-7500.
- Sonoma Valley Community Health Center clinic at 19270 Sonoma Hwy., Sonoma, is open Wednesdays from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturdays from noon to 3 p.m. Ages 12-plus. No appointment needed. Call 939-6070 or go to svhpvaccines.org for details.
- Alliance Medical Center at 1381 University Ave. in Healdsburg is operating a clinic Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Ages 5-plus. Appointments required. Call (707) 433-5494 or visit Alliancemedical.org.
- The Jewish Community Free Clinic at 50 Montgomery Dr. in Santa Rosa is open on Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Thursday from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Appointment required. Call (707) 585-7780. Ages 12-plus.
- Sonoma County Family YMCA at 1111 College Ave. in Santa Rosa will hold a clinic on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. No appointment needed. Use the North Street parking lot and enter through outdoor basketball courts. Every person vaccinated will receive a \$75 voucher to use toward YMCA membership or programs.

Testing updates, including local antigen rapid test sites

The county is averaging about 3,000 tests a day, about the same as before Christmas, but down from nearly 7,000 a day in mid January. That doesn't include all the at-home rapid tests being used. Appointments are still recommended but more testing sites now can accommodate walk-ins.

- The county's [testing page](#) includes a map to help find a site. Use the county's [pop-up testing calendar](#) to make an appointment.

- Residents can call the county hotline at (707) 565-4667 (4701 in Spanish) for help making an appointment.
- Self-administered rapid tests are available over the counter and online, including four free at-home tests from the federal government.
- The county urges anyone who tests positive using an at-home antigen test to report the result to county health by using this online form.
- The state created a fact sheet to help Californians understand when they should get tested for COVID-19.

Antigen rapid testing is available on Thursdays at The Grange Hall, 201 Commercial St., Cloverdale, from 9:15 to 3:15 p.m. without an appointment with results available in one hour or less. The testing is confidential and available at no cost. Social Security and citizenship are not required. The program is through the county Department of Health Services.

Fox Home Health: Call 707-573-0223 x101 for an appointment.

- Roseland Community Center, 779 Sebastopol Road, Santa Rosa, Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Antigen rapid testing of symptomatic individuals is being offered.

Molecular Matrix: Make an appointment at the Molecular Matrix website.

- Petaluma's Foundry Wharf, 625 Second St., Saturday, Sunday and Monday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Redemption Hill Church, 2100 Petaluma Hill Road, Santa Rosa, Monday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Sebastopol Community Center, 390 Morris St., Tuesday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- SOMO Village, 1400 Valley House Drive, Rohnert Park, Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

LHI: Appointments are highly recommended at <https://lhi.care/covidtesting> or call 866-284-8788. LHI offers testing from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at:

- Petaluma Valley Baptist Church, 580 Sonoma Mountain Pkwy., Tuesdays, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Cotati Park and Ride, St. Joseph Way at Highways 116 and 101, Tuesdays and Wednesdays
- Cal Skate, 6100 Commerce Blvd., Rohnert Park, Wednesday

- Galvin Park, 3330 Yulupa Ave., Santa Rosa, Thursdays
- Monte Rio Community Center, 20488 Hwy. 116, Monte Rio, Thursday
- Salvation Army, 721 S. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma, Friday
- A Place to Play Park, 2375 W. 3rd St., Santa Rosa, Friday
- Knox Presbyterian Church, 1650 W. 3rd St., Santa Rosa, Saturdays.
- West County High School, 6950 Analy Ave., Sebastopol, Sundays

Curative: Appointments are recommended; call 888-702-9042. Testing is available at these locations:

- Rohnert Park Community Center, 5401 Snyder Lane, daily, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. cur.tv/rohnertpark
- Coddington (Target lot), 1000 Coddington Center, Santa Rosa, daily, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. cur.tv/coddington
- Fiesta Plaza, 200 Siesta Way, Sonoma, Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. cur.tv/fiestaplaza
- Windsor Bluebird Center, 25 Bluebird Dr., Sunday and Tuesday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. cur.tv/windsor
- New Life Christian Fellowship, 1315 Rand St., Petaluma, Tuesday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- West County Community Health Center, 652 Petaluma Ave., Sebastopol, Tuesday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Cloverdale High School, 509 N. Cloverdale Blvd., Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. cur.tv/cloverdale
- West County Community Services, 15010 Armstrong Woods Road, Guerneville, Wednesdays, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. cur.tv/west
- Geyserville Elementary School, 21485 Geyserville Ave., Thursdays, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. cur.tv/geyserville
- Resurrection Parish, 303 Stony Point Road, Santa Rosa, Thursday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Boyes Hot Springs Park and Ride, Boyes Hot Springs, Highway 12 and Thompson Avenue, Sunday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Wastewater surveillance dashboard provides state overview

The state is coordinating with several wastewater utilities, local health departments, universities, and laboratories in California on [wastewater surveillance](#) for the virus causing COVID-19. A [dashboard](#) provides an overview of wastewater surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 in California, with

wastewater samples collected and analyzed by CDPH, wastewater utilities, and academic, laboratory, and other partners across the state (Cal-SuWers Network). With local partners, the California Department of Public Health is monitoring and quantifying levels of SARS-CoV-2 at the headworks or "influent" of 13 wastewater treatment plants.

State urges people to donate blood, save a life

Blood centers have an urgent need for donations of all blood types right now. State health officials want to remind everyone that donating blood is a lifesaving resource for those who need it most, like accident victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, and those battling cancer.

- Individuals who have received a COVID-19 vaccine are still eligible to donate blood.
- Donors who have recovered from COVID-19 and are symptom-free may also be eligible to donate after a specified period.
- Contact your local blood donation center for details related to COVID-19 and blood donation. [How to find a blood donation center.](#)

Resources and useful links for residents and business owners

- Free COVID-19 testing is available for tribal communities at Sonoma County Indian Health Project. Call 707-521-4500 for details.
- Listos California offers disaster preparedness information in indigenous languages at its [Farmworkers Initiative](#) webpage.
- Information for businesses is available at [SoCoLaunch.org](#).