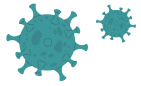


# Santa Cruz County Public Health COVID-19 Emergency Response Executive Summary 2/25/2022



## COVID-19 Case Trends – California's SMARTER Plan

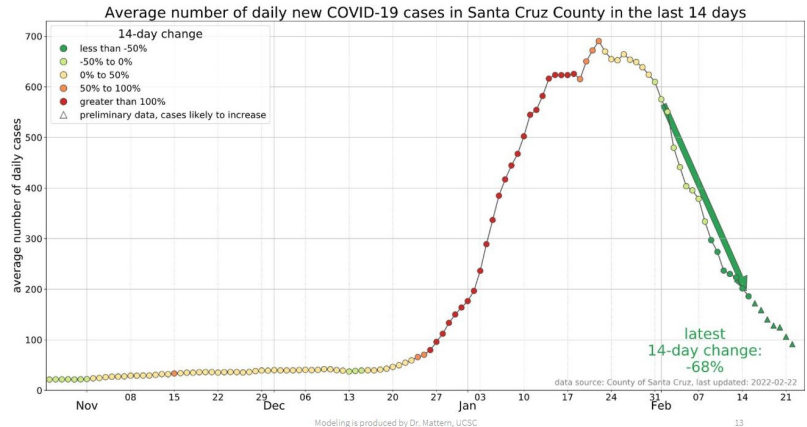
Good news: COVID-19 case rates are decreasing, though the Omicron surge is not quite over. Santa Cruz Public Health continues to focus on prevention and community and healthcare system preparedness.

**The 14-day change graph to the right indicates a flattening and decreasing trend.**

- Reproductive number median estimate is below 1 and transmission is decreasing.

Individual behaviors **DO** make a difference to **SLOW** the spread. What you can do during the Omicron surge:

- *Get vaccinated and boosted.*
- *Upgrade your masks.*
- *Improve ventilation and air filtration.*



## California SMARTER

The California SMARTER Plan is the next phase of California's COVID-19 response. Read more on California SMARTER here.

**SMARTER** stands for:

**Shots** – Vaccines are the most powerful weapon against hospitalization and serious illness.

**Masks** – Properly worn masks with good filtration help slow the spread of COVID-19 or other respiratory viruses.

**Awareness** – We will continue to stay aware of how COVID-19 is spreading, evolving variants, communicate clearly how people should protect themselves, and coordinate our state and local government response.

**Readiness** – COVID-19 is not going away and we need to be ready with the tools, resources and supplies we will need to quickly respond and keep public health and the healthcare system well prepared.

**Testing** – Getting the right type of tests—PCR or antigen—to where they are needed most. Testing will help California minimize the spread of COVID-19.

**Education** – California will continue to work to keep schools open and children safely in classrooms for in-person instruction.

**Rx** – Evolving and improving treatments will become increasingly available and critical as a tool to save lives.

## Testing/ Vaccinations



Countywide COVID-19 information is available at the Santa Cruz County COVID-19 website.

- **Testing:** Optum Serve Testing Sites: Open 7 days a week in Watsonville, Felton, and Santa Cruz. Click here to sign up for appointments.
- **Vaccines:** Public Health has clinics open 5 days a week in Watsonville, Felton, and Ben Lomond. Click here to find one near you.

You can find COVID-19 resources and vaccine information at the Health Services Agency COVID-19 Vaccine Webpage.

## ! New State Guidance

Click below for new guidance from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH):

- Child Care Providers and Programs (2/18/22)
- Health Care Worker Vaccine Guidance (Updated 2/22/22)
- Beyond the Blueprint for Industry and Business Sectors (Including Mega Events) (Updated 2/7/22)

Click here for a full list of CDPH guidances.

## Public Health Reminders

- **Healthy COVID-19 Habits:** wear a mask when gathering in indoor public spaces; get vaccinated and boosted; stay home if you are sick; get tested if you have symptoms.
- A good, well-fitting mask helps protect children from COVID-19 and is especially important at school. Click here for masking tips for children.
- Click here to access masking flyers for businesses.

