COVID-19 Case Trends
COVID-19 case rates continue to decline in Santa Cruz County, with almost the same daily case rate as this time last year.

- As of 10/20/21, data shows a -23% change in average number of cases in the last 14 days, compared to 2 weeks ago when it was at a -21% change in cases.
- COVID-19 hospitalizations, ICU need, and daily death rate are all in decline and projected to decline over the next few weeks.
- Majority of known cases since 7/1/2021 were exposed in the community (60.43%) or household (21.72%)
- The Local Demographics Dashboard shows that among active cases, the most number of cases are in the 35–44 age range (16.98%), followed by the 25–34 age range (15.12%)

Testing
Testing Appointment Information is available at the Santa Cruz County COVID-19 Testing Website. The Mobile Testing Bus has updated their schedule:

- **Santa Cruz City:** Open Monday-Thursday from 8am-4pm by appointment only in the Civic Auditorium Parking Lot
- **Felton:** Friday-Sunday from 10am-6pm at the Mountain Resource Center. *appointments preferred, walk-ins accommodated based on availability.

Appointments for both locations can be found at the Optum Serve Website, click here for an appointment.

Healthy Partnership Spotlight
This week, Public Health and the Medical Reserve Corps partnered with a local residential care facility to provide COVID-19 vaccines and education with staff and residents.

In one afternoon, over 80 COVID-19 vaccines have been provided within this congregate care setting due to this partnership.

Throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Santa Cruz County Medical Reserve Corps’ Vaccine Strike Team has provided vaccinations to homebound and vulnerable populations (click for more information).

Vaccinations
On 10/22/2021, the Western States Scientific Safety Review Workgroup approved Expanded Eligibility for COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters, for use in California. This follows the Center for Disease Control (CDC) endorsing of Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations on 10/21. The expanded criteria includes:

- **Moderna** and **Pfizer-BioNTech** booster doses for the following 6 months after their primary series:
  - 65 years and older
  - Age 18+ who live in long-term care settings, underlying medical conditions or work or live in high-risk settings.
- Individuals 18+ who received **Johnson and Johnson**, two or more months prior.
- Eligible individuals may choose which vaccine they receive as a booster dose.

Public Health Reminders

- **Celebrate Safely!** Recommendations for a safe Halloween and Día De Los Muertos are now available.
- **Seasonal Influenza** season is here. Now is the time to get the flu shot from your healthcare provider or local pharmacy. Click here to access MyTurn appointments.
- To find a COVID-19 Vaccine appointment near you, visit MyTurn or the Santa Cruz County COVID-19 Vaccine Webpage.

www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirus
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