Santa Cruz County Public Health
COVID-19 Emergency Response
Executive Summary 11/5/2021

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. To reduce spread of COVID-19, it is now recommended that all individuals 5+ receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

- As of 11/3/21, data shows a ~15% change in average number of cases in the last 14 days, compared to two weeks ago when it was at a ~31% change.
- 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 (59.84%) or household (22.25%).
- The Local Demographics Dashboard shows that among active cases, the most number of cases are in the 35–44 age range (19.33%), followed by the 25–34 age range (15.34%)

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.
- Ramsay Park: Open Wednesday-Sunday from 7am-6:45pm.

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

Santa Cruz County Booster Press Release

On 11/3/21, Santa Cruz County Public Health Officials released a press release encouraging all those who are eligible to get a booster shot as soon as possible.

“Protection from the initial vaccine series may decrease over time, and a booster shot is highly effective in preventing serious hospitalization and death,” said Dr. Gail Newel, Santa Cruz County Health Officer.

Vaccinations

On 11/3/21, the Western States Scientific Safety Review Workgroup recommended the use of the Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine for Pediatric use among Children 5 to 11 Years.

- This follows a series of national approvals, including a recommendation from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).
- The Pfizer vaccine is safe and effective for all children 5-11 years old. To reduce spread of COVID-19, it is encouraged to get the COVID-19 vaccine.
- Additional information on why children should get vaccinated, safety details, and how to prepare children for receiving a vaccine can be found here.

To schedule an appointment or find a walk-in clinic in Santa Cruz County, visit the HSA COVID-19 Vaccine Webpage or My Turn.

Public Health Reminders

- November is National Gratitude Month. Try to practice daily gratitude toward your loved ones and show your support during the holiday time!
- On 10/15/21, CDC released its official public health guidance for the 2021 holiday season. It is highly recommended for individuals to get vaccinated to protect those who are unable to receive vaccines. Click here to view the full release.
- Seasonal Influenza season is here. Now is the time to get the flu shot from your healthcare provider or local pharmacy.

www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirus
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