

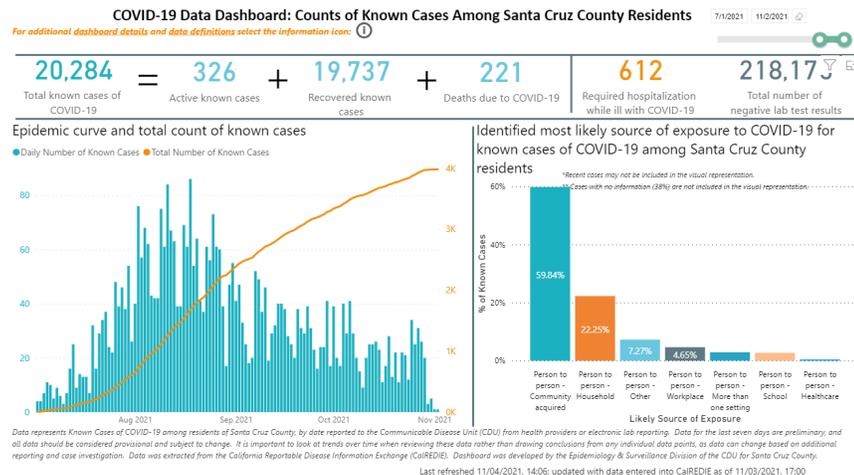
Santa Cruz County Public Health COVID-19 Emergency Response Executive Summary 11/5/2021



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](#).

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](#).

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.

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.